



# **The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776- 1941 (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society)**

*Rebecca M. McLennan*

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

# **The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941 (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society)**

*Rebecca M. McLennan*

## **The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941 (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society) Rebecca M. McLennan**

In the Age of Jackson, private enterprise set up shop in the American penal system. Working hand in glove with state government, contractors in both the North and the South would go on to put more than half a million imprisoned men, women, and youth to hard, sweated toil for private gain by 1900. Held captive, stripped of their rights, and subject to lash and paddle, convict laborers churned out vast quantities of goods and revenue, in some years generating the equivalent of more than \$30 billion worth of work. By the 1880s, however, a growing mass of Americans came to regard the prison labor system as immoral and unbefitting of a free republic: it fostered torture and other abuses, degraded free citizen-workers, corrupted government and the legal system, and stifled the supposedly ethical purposes of punishment. *The Crisis of Imprisonment* tells the remarkable story of this controversial system of penal servitude:—how it came into being, how it worked, how the popular campaigns for its abolition were ultimately victorious, and how it shaped and continues to haunt the American penal system. The author takes the reader into the morally vital world of nineteenth-century artisans, industrial workers, farmers, clergy, convicts, machine politicians, and labor leaders and shows how prisons became a lightning rod in a determined defense of republican and Christian values against the encroachments of an unbridled market capitalism. She explores the vexing ethical questions that prisons posed then and remain exigent today: What are the limits of state power over the minds, bodies, and souls of citizens and others—is torture permissible under certain circumstances? What, if anything, makes the state morally fit to deprive a person of life or liberty? Are prisoners slaves and, if so, by what right? Should prisoners work? Is the prison a morally defensible institution? The eventual abolition of prison labor contracting plunged the prisons into deep fiscal and ideological crisis. The second half of the book offers a sweeping reinterpretation of Progressive Era prison reform as, above all, a response to this crisis. It concludes with an exploration of the long-range impact of both penal servitude and the anti-prison labor movement on the modern American penal system.

 [Download The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and th ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941 (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society)**  
**Rebecca M. McLennan**

---

**Download and Read Free Online The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941 (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society)**  
**Rebecca M. McLennan**

---

**From reader reviews:**

**Anna Brooks:**

Have you spare time to get a day? What do you do when you have considerably more or little spare time? That's why, you can choose the suitable activity with regard to spend your time. Any person spent their very own spare time to take a wander, shopping, or went to the actual Mall. How about open or even read a book entitled The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941 (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society)? Maybe it is to be best activity for you. You understand beside you can spend your time with the favorite's book, you can wiser than before. Do you agree with the opinion or you have different opinion?

**Samantha Bond:**

This book untitled The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941 (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society) to be one of several books in which best seller in this year, here is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit onto it. You will easily to buy this kind of book in the book retail outlet or you can order it via online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too. It makes you more easily to read this book, since you can read this book in your Touch screen phone. So there is no reason to you personally to past this e-book from your list.

**Stacey Greene:**

Can you one of the book lovers? If so, do you ever feeling doubt while you are in the book store? Attempt to pick one book that you never know the inside because don't determine book by its cover may doesn't work the following is difficult job because you are frightened that the inside maybe not as fantastic as in the outside appear likes. Maybe you answer might be The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941 (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society) why because the amazing cover that make you consider with regards to the content will not disappoint you. The inside or content is fantastic as the outside or even cover. Your reading sixth sense will directly direct you to pick up this book.

**Jason Howell:**

A lot of e-book has printed but it takes a different approach. You can get it by web on social media. You can choose the most effective book for you, science, comedian, novel, or whatever by searching from it. It is known as of book The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941 (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society). You can include your knowledge by it. Without making the printed book, it may add your knowledge and make an individual happier to read. It is most essential that, you must aware about reserve. It can bring you from one location to other place.

**Download and Read Online The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest,  
Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941  
(Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society)  
Rebecca M. McLennan #5WGFQP9IOZ7**

# **Read *The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941* (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society) by Rebecca M. McLennan for online ebook**

The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941 (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society) by Rebecca M. McLennan Free PDF download, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read *The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941* (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society) by Rebecca M. McLennan books to read online.

## **Online *The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941* (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society) by Rebecca M. McLennan ebook PDF download**

***The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941* (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society) by Rebecca M. McLennan Doc**

***The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941* (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society) by Rebecca M. McLennan Mobipocket**

***The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941* (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society) by Rebecca M. McLennan EPub**

***The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941* (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society) by Rebecca M. McLennan Ebook online**

***The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State, 1776-1941* (Cambridge Historical Studies in American Law and Society) by Rebecca M. McLennan Ebook PDF**