

The Oregon Humanities Center presents:

VIOLENCE

The Thirteenth Annual Interdisciplinary Forum of
WESTERN HUMANITIES CONFERENCE
at the University of Oregon, Gerlinger Hall Alumni Lounge
October 6-8, 1994

Invited Plenary Speakers:

- **Richard M. Brown**, History, U. of Oregon
- **Troy Duster**, Institute for the Study of Social Change, UC Berkeley
- **Susan Jeffords**, English and Women's Studies, U. of Washington
- **Rosanne Royer**, Executive Director, Oregon Peace Institute
- **Kirk Williams**, Ctr. for Study & Prevention of Violence, U. Colorado

Concurrent Sessions:

Enforced Inequality: Cultural Identities in the U.S.; Racial Violence in the 19th Century; U.S. Modern and Postmodern Fiction; Public Space and Personhood; Challenging the Public/Private Distinction; Violence and Pleasure; Rape, Culture, and Female Violence; Media Representations of Violence; Political Theories of Violence; Fictions of Virility; Sacrifice and the Sublime; Violence and Religion; Generations of Violence; Confrontations; Interventions.

For a schedule of events, call the Humanities Center, 346-3934

University of Oregon College of Education
Division of Learning and Instructional Leadership
Educational Policy and Management (EDPM)

International Seminar "Quality and Equity of Education: Latin America and USA"

October 7-8, 1994
Walnut Room, ERB Memorial Union,
University of Oregon

Sponsored by:

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For registration information contact: EPDM,
College of Education, Room 124 (503) 346-5171

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Process of making will simplified



NATIONAL

NEW YORK (AP) — You know you can't take it with you. Yet even though most people are aware of the need for an orderly distribution of wealth after they're gone, about two-thirds of all Americans never get around to drafting a will.

The legal self-help industry is working to change that with manuals, do-it-yourself will kits and computer software, all of which can do the job adequately and inexpensively for many folks.

"Some people are reluctant to go to a lawyer ... because they feel they may end up paying more than they need to," said Steven R. Elias, an attorney and associate publisher of Nolo Press Inc. in Berkeley, Calif., which sells legal guidebooks for consumers.

"There's also some superstition involved; some feel that if they make out a will, it will somehow hasten their death," he said.

Elias, who admits to not having made a will himself until just two years ago, says average individuals who don't have substantial estates and plan to leave everything to their spouses can often achieve the same results with a self-help kit as a lawyer can, as long as they carefully follow instructions.

Besides, he says, most lawyers use the same standardized forms found in legal stationery stores or publications like Nolo's \$17.95 *Simple Will Book* or \$14.95 *Wills* legal form kit.

Nolo also has a brisk-selling software program, "Willmaker," which costs \$69.95. The program tailors each document to the user's state laws and provides for, among other things, the designation of a guardian for minor children, an important reason for having a will in the first place. Elias says the computerized will-making process takes anywhere from 15 minutes to two hours.

Several other publishers offer wills as part of larger legal software packages. Parsons Technolo-

gy's top-selling "It's Legal" program, for example, has more than 50 legal forms, including simple wills customized by state. It sells for \$29. Overdrive Systems' "Home Lawyer," which also sells for \$29, has similar forms, although only its living-will document is state-specific.

Document centers like Doc-U-Pro Processing Inc. in Taunton, Mass., also use computer programs to produce and sell dozens of standardized legal forms.

Doc-U-Pro, which has 25 branches in New England and New York, charges \$45 for creating a simple will that's notarized and witnessed, based on the answers to a five-page questionnaire. The company also sells forms for uncontested divorces for \$125 and prenuptial agreements for \$65.

"Why should people pay \$150 to \$200 for a lawyer when they can get the same thing (form) for so much less?" said Richard Lewis, Doc-U-Pro president. "Some lawyers will tell you a simple will will only cost \$100, but then when you tell them you have children ... or you own a house, they say, 'That's not simple any more.' There's nothing simple for a lawyer."

But the problem, most legal estate planners maintain, is knowing when a situation is truly simple enough to do without an attorney.

"You may not be doing your family members or heirs any favors by the do-it-yourself approach," said Thomas J. Stikker, a San Francisco lawyer specializing in estate planning. "All you're doing is leaving them a legacy of expense and confusion."

Clearly, there are situations in which an attorney should be contacted. (Average legal fees for a will range from \$200 to \$500.)

Denis Clifford, author of the *Simple Will Book*, advises consulting a lawyer if an estate exceeds \$600,000, since it's likely to be subject to federal estate taxes. He said legal advice also is warranted if you wish to establish a trust, attach contingencies to a gift, disinherit a spouse, leave part of a small business you own, make arrangements for long-term care for a beneficiary, or if you fear someone will contest your last wishes.

Woman admits faking alibi for serial killer

HOUSTON (AP) — An alibi that might have taken one of the nation's most notorious serial killers off death row fell apart Tuesday when a woman admitted she made it up.

Henry Lee Lucas has been convicted of 13 murders in Texas and Florida but faces death for only one, the Halloween-night killing of a Texas hitchhiker in 1979.

On Monday, Lucas' lawyer said a woman claiming to be Becky Powell, another of Lucas' murder victims, had come forward to say she was alive and was with Lucas in Florida when the Texas victim was killed.

But on Tuesday, attorney Vic Feazell said he confronted the woman with a 1971 high school yearbook picture that identified her as someone else.

"She cried and admitted to me that she is not Becky Powell, that she is Phyllis Wilcox and that this whole thing was fabricated by her," Feazell said.

She made it up, Feazell said, because she loves Lucas.

"I know I have done something terribly wrong," Ms. Wilcox told KVUE-TV in Austin.

"I now understand how easy it

is to be misled when you are dealing with these Henry Lucas cases," Feazell said.

Feazell, a former district attorney in Waco, has accused the Rangers of shoddy work in investigating Lucas, who once claimed he killed several hundred people.

Lucas, 58, now claims he killed only one person, his mother in 1961. Others who have followed the case over the years say the one-eyed drifter may have killed as many as 100.

Authorities were skeptical when the woman claiming to be Powell first came forward. Remains identified as Powell's were found in a field north of Dallas in 1982 and Lucas was convicted of her murder in 1984.

"We were convinced it was Becky or we wouldn't have filed the charges and done it that way," said Wise County Sheriff Phil Ryan, who investigated the Lucas murders when he was a Texas Ranger.

He said this latest twist is just the most recent happening in a long, twisted case that has inspired the controversial X-rated film *Henry: Portrait of a Serial Killer*, and the book *The Confessions of Henry Lee Lucas*.

Mandela seeks U.S. investors

WASHINGTON (AP) — Grateful for past help and seeking more, Nelson Mandela asked Americans Tuesday to expand the support they gave South Africa in the victory against apartheid - this time by helping revive his nation's economy.

President Clinton welcomed Mandela to an exuberant White House ceremony underscoring the 76-year-old African leader's rise from imprisonment.

On his first visit to the United States since his inauguration in May, Mandela was greeted by 4,000 guests at the White House.

Mandela, on a week-long visit to New York and Washington in search of business investment, said he had come with a message:

"People of the United States of America: Open your markets to us. People of the United States of America: Come and invest in our country."

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