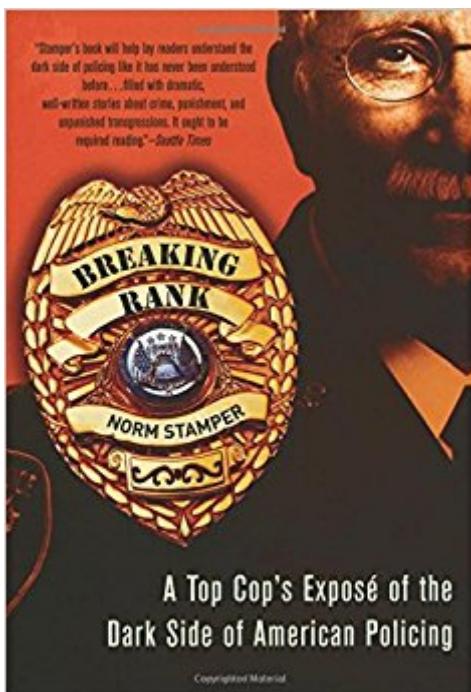


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Breaking Rank: A Top Cop's Exposé Of The Dark Side Of American Policing



Synopsis

Opening with a powerful letter to former Tacoma police chief David Brame, who shot his estranged wife before turning the gun on himself, Norm Stamper introduces us to the violent, secret world of domestic abuse that cops must not only navigate, but which some also perpetrate. Former chief of the Seattle police force, Stamper goes on to expose a troubling culture of racism, sexism, and homophobia that is still pervasive within the twenty-first-century force; then he explores how such prejudices can be addressed. He reveals the dangers and temptations that cops face, describing in gripping detail the split-second life-and-death decisions. Stamper draws on lessons learned to make powerful arguments for drug decriminalization, abolition of the death penalty, and radically revised approaches to prostitution and gun control. He offers penetrating insights into the "blue wall of silence," police undercover work, and what it means to kill a man. And, Stamper gives his personal account of the World Trade organization debacle of 1999, when protests he was in charge of controlling turned violent in the streets of Seattle. *Breaking Rank* reveals Norm Stamper as a brave man, a pioneering public servant whose extraordinary life has been dedicated to the service of his community.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"*Breaking Rank* reveals an advocate for the kind of progressive social justice that Bobby Kennedy would have loved--a cop with guts enough to admit his own mistakes, learn from them, and remain a voice for changing the institution that both made and broke him."

Norm Stamper began his law enforcement career in San Diego in 1966 as a beat cop. In 1994, he was named chief of the Seattle Police Department, where he set about implementing many of the initiatives he writes about in *Breaking Rank*. Retiring in 2000, he now lives in a cabin on a mountain in the San Juan Islands in Washington State.

Wow!

Very informative.

The. Hard truth

Good Book. Some of his idea's I don't agree with but all in all a good book.

Enjoyed reading this book. On the plus side, it was a good read and put a lot of needed "flesh" on the bones of what we are hearing nearly every day from Ferguson; letting us know the contextual side and also from the police point of view. One of my police officer friends dismissed it out of hand as the product of a Liberal Mind. As the book goes on, that characterization of way too simplistic. On the downside it was somewhat long and would have benefitted with a bit more organization. I felt as if the author at times was reciting a bunch of facts rather than telling a story. Still though a worthwhile read, especially in time like these..

I see why this was highly recommended by many people. It is rare to hear this side of the story. We all know it happened and still happens, nice to have someone strong enough to share their story.

Powerful story. Told honestly and it was a good read.

Great book. As a Police Officer of 10 years, I found this book to be truthful, ugly and unapologetic. It gives the reader a true glimpse on the issues that affect police in America.

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