Review of “La Desobediencia,” By Dr. Diego Vicente Tejera

L. L. Bernard
Washington University School of Law

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discusses the advantages and the disadvantages, the application and uses of this judicial guardianship, and especially as a substitute for the English 
*habes corpus*, in some detail. The insight into Mexican constitutional 
history and law afforded by this little book is considerable. 

L. L. BERNARD.

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**LA DESOBEDIENCIA.** By Dr. Diego Vicente Tejera (Hijo). La Habana: 
Jesus Montero, Editor, 1933. 156 pp.

Dr. Tejera is one of the ablest modern students of sociological jurispru-
dence. His productivity is remarkable. Furthermore, his outlook is not 
merely theoretical, but his aim is highly practical. He combines the con-
creteness of the searcher of codes and cases with the broad outlook of the 
legal reformer who wishes to make his vast learning—for Dr. Tejera's learn-
ing is both vast and profound—useful in constructive legislation and in the 
socialized administration of justice. The present work is a study in the 
sociological aspects of the disobedience of officials engaged in the interpreta-
tion and enforcement of the law. In tracing the history of this type of crime 
he finds that it is a product of the régime of constitutional governments which 
followed the French Revolution. Recognizing the power of the recalcitrant 
or corrupted administrative officials and judges to nullify laws to the detri-
ment of public interests, he presents digests of the laws of most of the lead-
ing countries covering the crime of disobedience, and particularly of the laws 
of Cuba, pointing out various effects of such disobedience and remedies there-
for. An interesting section of the volume indicates when such disobedience 
in enforcement may have favorable public effects, especially in cases where 
lawyers and criminals sabotage the laws by means of formal overt compli-
ance, but insidiously pervert law and justice under the pretense of con-
formity. In such cases he would give some leeway to courts and adminis-
trative officials in order to allow them to enforce the spirit rather than the 
mere letter of the law. In his commentary on legislation and the codes, the 
author makes frequent and penetrating references to the social scientists of 
different periods and countries who have contributed to his theme. 

L. L. BERNARD.

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**CRIME, LAW AND SOCIAL SCIENCE,** by Jerome Michael and Mortimer J. Adler, 

This volume by Messrs. Michael and Adler is one of the most significant 
books of recent times in the fields of social science and law. No one who is 
active in law or is concerned through some other discipline with the prob-
lems of human behavior should forego the authors' clear analysis of the 
related functions of the several branches of the social studies. In relation 
to criminal law and criminology the writers' appraisal of the work which has 
been done and their estimate of what is needed are essential to understand-
ing a subject that has been enveloped in a fog of hazy concepts and misty 
emotionalism.