ALL THE WAY DOWN; THE VIOLENT UNDERWORLD OF STREET GANGS

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All the way down; the violent underworld of street gangs by Vincent Riccio & Bill Slocum

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VINCENT RICCIO & BILL SLOCUM

ALL THE WAY DOWN; THE VIOLENT UNDERWORLD OF STREET GANGS

Trieste







the violent underworld

by VINCENT RICCIO

SIMON AND SCHUSTER



of street gangs

the

and BILL SLOCUM

way

down

NEW YORK · 1962

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foreword by Bill Slocum

This is a highly opinionated book.

The opinions are going to irritate a lot of politicians, every policeman in New York City or Keokuk, much of the clergy, most professional and amateur social workers, and a lot of parents. Parents whose kids are, are not, or just might be juvenile delinquents.

For what it is worth, it frequently irritated me.

It is conceivable that this book will not irritate the people it is about—the kids—although that is not the design of the work. And it is not much better than even money that many of *them* won't be angered.

The source of all this irritation is Vincent Riccio, a beautifully disciplined man who laboriously built up his body to a mass of muscle and far more laboriously built his natural intelligence into a well co-ordinated thinking mechanism smoothed and oiled by college and postgraduate study.

Riccio is firstly irritated with himself. This book is no success story. Far from it. And Riccio is furious because he hasn't cured, and now knows he won't cure, juvenile delinquency.

He is just as furious at the people who shape the destinies of kids. He knows from bitter experience that some bad kids are too much for any set of parents, be those parents in Beverly Hills or Brooklyn. But he feels this is the exception and not the rule.

Cops he holds in low regard, social workers in lower.