

# **Biology, Emotions, and Law**

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The more we can learn about how and why humans behave the way they do, the more efficiently and effectively we can use tools of law to shift their behaviors in directions that society deems wise and appropriate. No discipline is sufficient, alone, to capture the complexity of human behavior. And laudable efforts are now being made to synthesize the social sciences in ways relevant to law by, for example, integrating economic insights with those that attend to human emotions. It is important, however, that those efforts also extend to synthesizing the social and life sciences, since the life sciences have a great deal to contribute to understanding how brain design and function influence behavior.

This talk will discuss the relationship between biology, emotions, and behaviors relevant to law. To illustrate a promising interdisciplinary avenue of inquiry, it will also discuss from both theoretical and empirical perspectives one intersection (in the context of property) of economics, psychology, emotions, biology, and law.