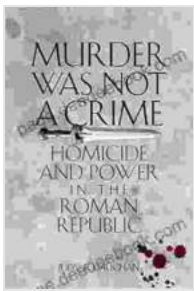


# Homicide and Power in the Roman Republic: Ashley and Peter Larkin in Greek and Roman Studies

Homicide was a common occurrence in the Roman Republic. In fact, it was one of the leading causes of death among Roman citizens. There were many different types of homicide that were common in the Republic, including murder, manslaughter, and self-defense. These homicides were often used to gain and maintain power.



## Murder Was Not a Crime: Homicide and Power in the Roman Republic (Ashley and Peter Larkin Series in Greek and Roman Culture) by Judy E. Gaughan

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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In this article, we will explore the relationship between homicide and power in the Roman Republic. We will examine the different types of homicide that were common in the Republic, and we will discuss the ways in which these homicides were used to gain and maintain power. We will also explore the ways in which the Roman state responded to homicide, and we

will discuss the impact that these responses had on the Republic's political and social landscape.

## **The Different Types of Homicide in the Roman Republic**

There were many different types of homicide that were common in the Roman Republic. The most common type of homicide was murder. Murder was defined as the intentional killing of another person. It was a capital offense, and those who were convicted of murder could be sentenced to death.

Manslaughter was another common type of homicide in the Roman Republic. Manslaughter was defined as the unintentional killing of another person. It was a less serious offense than murder, and those who were convicted of manslaughter could be sentenced to exile or imprisonment.

Self-defense was also a common type of homicide in the Roman Republic. Self-defense was defined as the killing of another person in order to protect oneself from harm. It was a justifiable homicide, and those who were convicted of self-defense were not punished.

## **The Use of Homicide to Gain and Maintain Power**

Homicide was often used to gain and maintain power in the Roman Republic. For example, some politicians used murder to eliminate their rivals. Others used murder to intimidate their opponents. Still others used murder to seize control of the government.

In addition to politicians, criminals also used homicide to gain and maintain power. For example, some criminals used murder to protect their criminal

enterprises. Others used murder to extort money from their victims. Still others used murder to terrorize their communities.

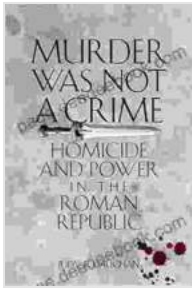
## **The Roman State's Response to Homicide**

The Roman state responded to homicide in a variety of ways. In the early Republic, the state's response to homicide was primarily through the family of the victim. The family of the victim could avenge the victim's death by killing the killer. However, this system of vengeance often led to further violence.

As the Republic grew larger and more complex, the state began to take a more active role in responding to homicide. The state established a system of courts to try those who were accused of homicide. The state also established a system of punishments for those who were convicted of homicide.

The state's response to homicide had a significant impact on the Republic's political and social landscape. The state's monopoly on the use of violence helped to reduce the level of violence in the Republic. The state's system of courts also helped to ensure that those who were guilty of homicide were punished.

Homicide was a common occurrence in the Roman Republic. It was often used to gain and maintain power. The Roman state responded to homicide in a variety of ways, including through the family of the victim, through the courts, and through the use of punishment. The state's response to homicide had a significant impact on the Republic's political and social landscape.



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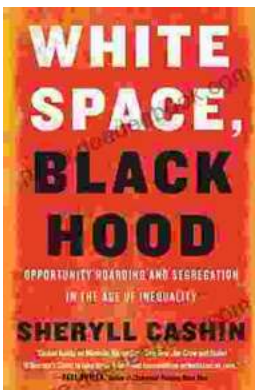
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