15 Years of Law and Neuroscience: An American View

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The current interest in the United States in law and neuroscience dates back about 15 years. Since then more than 1,000 articles - and several books - have been published on aspects of the topic; the pace of publication continues to accelerate. This talk will first review the history of "law and the neurosciences" in the United States, and then describe its current state. It will examine its use on questions of responsibility but also other, more evidentiary, uses. It will also discuss both its use in individual cases as well as its applications by courts and legislatures to broader policy issues. Finally it will attempt to project the field's future course.