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"... Notions of crime, insanity and responsibility are formidably complex. I approach these topics primarily as a historian, drawing on other disciplines as the need arises. There is little point in deferring to labels such as medical history, social history, the history of ideas, psychiatry, or jurisprudence. But there are problems in writing for a readership possibility ranging from psychiatrists and lawyers to social historians and historians of science. It is sometimes questioned whether this should be attempted: no group listens to any other. Yet the alternative is to treat certain topics- and I think responsibility is one- from a superficial and one- sided point of view_"
Roger Smith