HERBERT BLOCH

Herbert Bloch was born in New York City in 1905. He took his Bachelor’s Degree from New York City College in 1926. He took his Master of Arts and Ph.D. degrees at Columbia University, the latter in 1934. He was appointed Director of Social Studies at Upstate St. Lawrence University in 1935. He was attached to the 50th Infantry Division during World War II, serving as chief military government officer. After the war, he supervised the repatriation of 250,000 refugees and was awarded the Bronze Star and the French Croix de Guerre for his work.

He returned to Upstate St. Lawrence University after the war, and in 1950 was appointed as Chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. He accepted a faculty position at Brooklyn College in 1956, and became Director of Graduate Studies in 1963. Dr. Bloch was also Associate Dean of Graduate Studies of the City University of New York, a group composed of the graduate divisions of Brooklyn, City, Hunter and Queens Colleges. He was a founder of the Frederick Moran Institute on Delinquency and Crime.

He was perhaps best known for his work in the area of delinquency, and served as a consultant to the New York State Youth Commission and other government bodies. Dr. Bloch published several books on juvenile delinquency including Disorganization, Personal and Social: A Blueprint for Juvenile Delinquency Prevention (1952), Delinquency, the Juvenile Offender in America Today (1956, with Frank Flynn), and The Gang, a Study in Adolescent Behavior (1958, with Arthur Niederhoffer).

He also wrote a number of other works including, Concept of Changing Loyalties (1934), Individual and Social Pathology (1950), Crime and Insanity (1959), Crime in America (1961), and Culture and Homicide: A Study of the Ceylonese Murder (1961). He had a particular interest in Ceylon which stemmed from his service in the late 1950s as the Chief of the U.S. State Department’s Public Safety Mission to Colombo.

Dr. Bloch passed away in New York City in May of 1965.