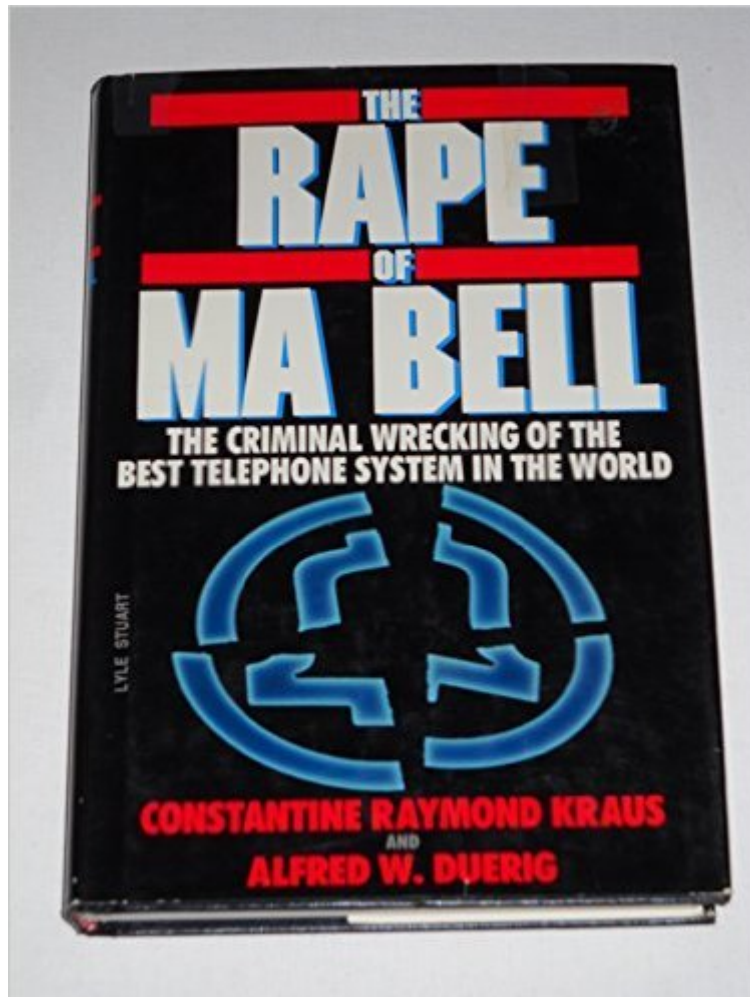


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# The Rape Of Ma Bell: The Criminal Wrecking Of The Best Telephone System In The World



## Synopsis

Vintage hardcover

## Book Information

Hardcover: 270 pages

Publisher: Lyle Stuart (July 1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 081840468X

ISBN-13: 978-0818404689

Product Dimensions: 1 x 6.2 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,538,388 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Telecommunications & Sensors > Telephone Systems](#) #4660 in [Books > Computers & Technology > Networking & Cloud Computing > Internet, Groupware, & Telecommunications](#) #142609 in [Books > Business & Money](#)

## Customer Reviews

As a long term Bell System employee when divestiture took place in 1984, I was pre-inclined to really like this book...as although good did come out of the breakup (mostly faster rollouts of emerging technologies), lots was lost, especially at the expense of customers who had to become knowledgeable in telecommunications as they worked their way through different vendors whenever they had a problem. But...26 years after divestiture, this book is really dated. It accurately depicts some of the issues in the time immediately after divestiture...most of which are no longer valid. So if you want to read a book as a historical reference into divestiture and the immediate ramifications, have at it. BUT: Bottom line, I felt that the authors were spending a lot of time justifying their own actions and beliefs...and I was predisposed to like it! Someone who wasn't a Bell System fan to begin with? Don't waste your time, you'll just get aggravated.

Everyone should read this to understand what happened and that "big is not always bad). Good reading!

A must read for anybody wanting to know how greed and ignorance destroyed the best telephone system in the world. It starts with a history of the formation of the Bell System, the people involved,

and how it's philosophies of quality and service before the bottom line and end-to-end responsibility resulted in a world-class communication system. It then goes on to explain how the Bell System break-up sent secure, family-wage jobs overseas and cost the consumer billions of dollars for less service, shabby products and sky-high costs.

Great history of the government's role in destroying America's research and development treasure, the Bell Labs.

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The Anatomy of a Business Strategy: Bell, Western Electric and the Origins of the American Telephone Industry (The Johns Hopkins / AT& T Series in Telephone History)  
Bell Telephone System Technical Publications (Volume 43) September 1964 Part 2 of 2 Parts (No. 1 ESS Switching System)  
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