

# [PDF] Vice: One Cop's Story Of Patrolling America's Most Dangerous City

John R. Baker, Stephen J. Rivele - pdf download free book

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#### Books Details:

Title: Vice: One Cop's Story of Patr  
Author: John R. Baker, Stephen J. Ri  
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#### Description:

**From Publishers Weekly** Born and raised in Compton, the city in L.A. county notoriously home to the Bloods and Crips gangs, Baker traces both the history of the city and his own rise from rookie to detective in his gritty memoir. Co-written with screenwriter Rivele (Nixon), Baker, born in 1942, describes growing up the son of a white father and Mexican mother, learning early on how to sidestep racial boundaries--yet never walking away from a fight. He joins the Compton Police

Department in 1968 after earning a sociology degree and serving in the Marine Corps, hoping to fulfill his need for adventure and serve his town. Baker recounts the racial shift in Compton beginning in the late 1950s as "white flight" began and the area became predominantly black, though by the 1970s Hispanics became the majority--and the rise of brutal gang violence. Along with his fellow officers, Baker was more often than not outnumbered on the streets by criminals, but describes a police force dedicated to protecting the community, even if that means doling out some unorthodox, Compton-style justice. (Jan.)

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## Review

"Harrowing...thrilling...in-your-face violence and resilient heroism that leap off the page." -*Kirkus Reviews*

"A candid and unapologetic glimpse into a lawman's life. Grim, exhilarating, heroic ... with a dash of history thrown in for good measure." --Lt. Randy Sutton, author of *True Blue* and *A Cop's Life*

"Some of the best cop stories you'll ever read--[I] promise. Rick Baker's Compton makes the South Bronx look like [summer] camp."  
--Brian McDonald, author of *My Father's Gun: One Family, Three Badges, One Hundred Years in the NYPD*

"Compton, California, in the 1970s and 80s was like the Wild West, and Rick Baker was perhaps the Compton Police Department's bravest and most honorable officer. His book, *Vice*, is a nonstop thrilling saga of how this small but determined police force kept order in a tough town."

--Leonard Levitt, author of *NYPD Confidential*

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