When should someone who may have intentionally or knowingly committed criminal wrongdoing be excused? Excusing Crime examines what excusing conditions are, and why familiar excuses, such as duress, are thought to fulfil those conditions.

Jeremy Horder argues that the traditional excuses like duress do not qualify as valid excuses because they do not fulfill the conditions required for an excuse. The book explores the idea that excuses should be based on the idea of a moral fault, and that the individual should be held responsible for their actions.

The book also discusses the idea of excusing crimes that are committed due to moral or legal necessity, and argues that these should be excused as well. The author's main argument is that excuses should not be based on the idea of the individual's mental state, but rather on the idea of a moral fault.

The book concludes by arguing that the traditional excuses like duress do not qualify as valid excuses because they do not fulfill the conditions required for an excuse. The author's main argument is that excuses should be based on the idea of a moral fault, and that the individual should be held responsible for their actions.