Many of the well-known lawmen of the old west were as crooked as the men they went after. The men portrayed in this book, while less well known today, were good and honorable men. They are men that, in today's confusing world, can be held up as role models. The book is well written, in a style crafted to attract the mainstream reader. Product Identifiers.

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RANGERS: Early Texas Rangers Perhaps the most storied lawmen of the West were the Texas Rangers. Comanches, not outlaws, were the principle adversaries of the Rangers in the years immediately following the Civil War. Photos of Texas Rangers taken prior to 1870 are rare. This one of James Thomas Bird (left) and John J. Haynes was taken in 1868 and shows the young Indian fighters outfitted more like Civil War guerrillas than the later Texas cowboys. Old West. Gangsters. History Books. Vintage Pictures. Wild Bill Hickok: From the Backwoods to the Wild West. If you have ever been to Troy Grove, Illinois, you more than likely would not have known it. It is a "blink and miss it" kind of town. In the old movies about the Old West, when grizzled, chawing, cussing, murdering highwaymen ride into town and disturb the peace, from behind the batwing doors of the lawman's office steps the badge-wearing, fast-shooting, strong-silent-type. The banditti are savage and lawless. The lawman is good. The lawman might be a U.S. marshal, appointed by the Attorney General, under whose loose, vague authority the marshal operated until the Department of Justice was organized in 1870; or he might be a local sheriff, elected to office by the townspeople. Out West, where systems of order were scarce

The Old West produced a bunch of legends. As a matter of fact, if there's one thing they were consistent at, it was being aggressive criminals. In a time of lawlessness and disorder, there were lawmen who commanded respect and weren't afraid to stand up to outlaws. Noted lawman Wyatt Earp is most likely the most storied figure of the Old West. He was also a skilled gunslinger who was greatly feared by the outlaws of the time. Earp had a varied career that saw him travel to boomtowns like Wichita, Dodge City and the lawless town of Tombstone to serve as sheriff, and he took part in some of the most legendary gunfights of the 1800s.