

three volumes. *Encyclopedia of the Modern World: 1900 to the Present* is recommended for public, high school, and undergraduate library reference collections.—*Michael A. Rose, Public Services Librarian, Rockingham Community College, Wentworth, North Carolina*

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***The Facts On File Encyclopedia of Health and Medicine: A Comprehensive and Concise Guide to the Human Body and Modern Medical Practices.*** New York: Facts On File, 2007. 4 vols. alkaline \$265 (ISBN 0-8160-6063-0).

Each of the first three volumes in this four-volume set focuses on major systems of the human body. The first volume covers the sensory and structural systems; the second volume covers the circulatory, pulmonary, and immune systems; and the third volume covers the rest of generally accepted body systems as well as presents information about psychiatric disorders and psychological conditions. The fourth volume furnishes information about health topics that can affect overall health and well-being, such as preventive, alternative, and complementary medicine, and genetic and molecular medical techniques. Additional chapters are devoted to lifestyle factors, including drug use, nutrition and diet, exercise and fitness, smoking, obesity, and substance abuse. The capstone chapter presents emergency and first aid procedures. The fourth volume also furnishes many specialized appendixes and a cumulative index to volumes one through four.

Written under the direction of a thirteen-member medical advisory review panel representing many fields of medicine, this reference claims to be comprehensive and offer an integrated approach to understanding medical information. However, coverage of each topic is brief, and the presentation of concepts seems fragmented and disjointed rather than interconnected. For instance, each chapter that addresses either a major body system or health topic begins with an overview, which is usually only a few pages long. Entries for topics associated with the chapter theme follow, and many of these entries are only one or two paragraphs in length. Some article entries are further subdivided by relevant subheadings, such as those for health conditions and diseases, surgery operations, medication classifications, and diagnostic procedures. Despite the additional sections created by these further subdivisions, the overall entries are only slightly longer because each additional subsection is only one or two paragraphs in length.

Cross references are supplied for each entry, but usually just a few per entry. Unlike the *Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine* (Thomson Gale, 2006), this reference does not introduce and define key terms related to the entry topic or offer other features to aid the reader with comprehension. There are few diagrams, photos, and informational sidebars in this set of books. Furthermore, unlike the *Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine*, this encyclopedia's individual entries do not furnish resources for further reading, bibliographies, or contact information for relevant organizations. This encyclopedia simply lumps this information in two separate appendix sections titled "Selected Bibliography and Further Reading" and "Resources,"

making it challenging and time-consuming for individuals to continue researching their topics of interest. Because bibliographies lend support to the credibility and authoritativeness of the information presented, the lack of individual article bibliographies indicates that this encyclopedia may not be of the highest quality.

Although this reference has a few good entries, such as the entry about cultural and ethnic healthcare perspectives, the treatment of medical topics seems very light in nature, and the relationships between medical topics are difficult to infer. Users must continually rely on volume four's cumulative index to locate information on topics, especially for unfamiliar topics and those for which body system affiliations are unknown. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that instead of purchasing this set, public, school, and university libraries should consider purchasing some of the higher-priced, quality titles published by Thomson Gale, such as *Gale Encyclopedia of Alternative Medicine*, 2d ed., 4 vols., 2005; *Gale Encyclopedia of Cancer*, 2d ed., 2 vols., 2006; *Gale Encyclopedia of Children's Health: Infancy through Adolescence*, 4 vols., 2006; *Gale Encyclopedia of Genetic Disorders*, 2d ed., 2 vols., 2005; or the aforementioned *Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine*. Alternatively, libraries may benefit from using free, high-quality Internet resources such as *MedlinePlus* ([www.medlineplus.com](http://www.medlineplus.com)) from the U.S. National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health.—*Caroline Geck, Librarian, Kean University, Union, New Jersey*

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***Great Lives from History: Notorious Lives.*** Ed. by Carl L. Bankston III. Pasadena, Calif.: Salem, 2007. 3 vols. alkaline \$252 (ISBN 978-1-58765-320-9).

Salem Press's *Great Lives from History: Notorious Lives* augments their *Great Lives* titles by adding more than six hundred new names. The *Oxford English Dictionary* defines notorious as "of a criminal, sinner, etc.: noted or well known in that capacity; infamous" (<http://dictionary.oed.com>, accessed April 13, 2007), and most of the names covered fit this definition. The coverage is very broad and includes figures from the Bible as well as contemporary names. The entire world is considered, although American ne'er-do-wells receive a majority of the attention. Not included are young people and the living who "might be considered victims of circumstance as well as of poor judgment," according to the publisher's Web site. This explains why Joey Buttafuoco is included but not Amy Fisher.

Entries are of moderate length, between 700 and 1,200 words, and make for interesting reading. All entries include a list of quick facts, such as name, aliases, dates and places of activity, major offenses, and sentencing information. A pronunciation guide is given for the main entry of the name, and some, but not all, of the entries are illustrated. The signed entries are slightly more in-depth than those found in other encyclopedias of crime, but that varies with the fame of the personage. Each entry also includes an impact statement that explains why this particular person was included. Annotated

## SOURCES

further readings are listed for each entry. Sidebars are included for many entries, and there is a separate index for these. Volume III provides indexing based on name, geographical location, and category of crime.

The inclusion of some names seems to be a bit odd. Mad Joan, Queen of Castile, merits two pages, when her only crime was that she seems to have suffered from bipolar disorder. She was declared unfit to rule following her husband's death in the early 1500s and then was locked away for nearly forty years. Even the impact statement fails to make clear what her crime was or how she came to be notorious. Barabbas, released from prison in 30 C.E., thus escaping crucifixion, has an entry as a "Jewish rebel against Rome." Little is known about him, and this entry does not amplify the information that is known. Despite this, the reader may find other interesting entries and wander away from the original purpose.

Occasionally there are illustrations that fail to clarify the entry. The Barbarossa entry, "Muslim pirate and governor of Algiers," 1473–1518, is illustrated with the painting or engraving "Prisoners of Barbarossa" by F. R. Niglutsch. The subjects appear to be wearing Victorian clothing, while a man, whose hands are bound behind him, kneels as a child kisses him and a woman swoons nearby. Behind him stands a large man with a very large sword in his hand. There is no explanation about what is happening, nor is there any mention of a presumably famous collection of prisoners.

Many of the entries are covered in other works, such as Alan Axelrod's *Cops, Crooks, and Criminologists: An International Biographical Dictionary of Law Enforcement* (Zenda, 2000), Harvey Kushner's *Encyclopedia of Terrorism* (Sage, 2003), George C. Kohn's *Dictionary of Culprits and Criminals* (Scarecrow, 1995), and Jurg Gerber and Eric L. Jensen's *Encyclopedia of White-collar Crime* (Greenwood, 2007). *Notorious Lives* combines a smattering of entries from all of these works and many others. Although it is handy to have so many criminal types gathered in one work, the scope is so broad that it is unlikely to be the first source that comes to a librarian's mind when asked about criminals and people considered notorious. For libraries that can afford it, *Notorious Lives* will make a nice addition to their criminal reference collections. On the other hand, those libraries without any criminal encyclopedias could start with *Notorious Lives*. Recommended for high school media centers, public libraries, and undergraduate collections.—Carla Wilson Buss, *Education and Curriculum Materials Librarian, University of Georgia Libraries, Athens*

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***The Ku Klux Klan: History, Organization, Language, Influence, and Activities of America's Most Notorious Secret Society.*** By Michael Newton. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 2007. 504p. acid free \$95 (ISBN 0-7864-2787-6).

This work is the culmination of forty-five years of research by Newton and presents an encyclopedic view of all aspects of the Ku Klux Klan's (KKK) history, membership, and activities during its 140-year history. It is timely, as readers are reminded that the KKK is the oldest and most violent terrorist

organization in American history and the progenitor of the white supremacist movements currently active in the United States. Other reference works on hate groups in general have been published in the recent past, including Jeffrey Kaplan's *Encyclopedia of White Power: A Sourcebook on the Radical Racist Right* (AltaMira, 2000). In addition, there is no shortage of books on various aspects of the Ku Klux Klan, but the value of this work is its unique reference book format and comprehensive focus on the KKK.

The guide contains more than five hundred pages of well-researched, clearly written essays and entries arranged into eleven discrete subject groupings. The opening section is an essay on the history of the Klan, followed by alphabetized encyclopedic subject sections, including a glossary of Klanspeak; biographies of members, supporters, and foes; descriptions of local Klans across the country; and press coverage of the group. There are more than 130 illustrations from all time periods; many of these chilling photos capture the Klan committing depraved and cruel acts of hate. There is a large section of appendixes comprising an extensively detailed chronology from the group's inception to the present and facsimiles of various Klan organizational documents.

The major weakness of the work is the index. Because the guide does not strictly follow an A-to-Z arrangement, the index serves as the primary access point for readers who might not know in which section a particular topic is covered. While nearly all of the entry headings appear in the index, the indexing of entry contents is sporadic. For example, in the geographically based "Mapping the Empire" section, many key Klan figures are mentioned in conjunction with specific states, but their names are not indexed under these entries. Despite this flaw, the author has achieved his goal of creating a comprehensive guide to the Ku Klux Klan. This reference title would be useful for all levels of undergraduate and graduate academic libraries as well as for larger public libraries.—Brent D. Singleton, *Reference Librarian, California State University, San Bernardino*

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***New Makers of Modern Culture.*** Ed. by Justin Wintle. New York: Routledge, 2007. 2 vols. \$395 (ISBN 978-0-415-33831-8).

This work is an updated and expanded version of *Makers of Modern Culture* (Routledge, 1981), a collection of more than five hundred biographical articles on individuals who significantly influenced twentieth-century culture. *Makers of Modern Culture* was well-received for the quality of its entries and is in the collections of many large academic and public libraries.

*New Makers of Modern Culture* expands the coverage to 957 entries, taking into account the cultural changes of the past quarter century, including the fall of communism, the adoption of the Internet as a means of communication, and the rise of fundamentalist Islam. Subjects include philosophers, religious leaders, scientists, writers, artists, musicians, political leaders, film directors, and such popular culture icons as the Beatles, Elvis Presley, and Jimi Hendrix. Although the editor also published a volume titled *Makers of Nineteenth*