

The Women's Movement Today: An Encyclopedia of Third-Wave Feminism. Ed. by Leslie L. Heywood. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2006. 2 vols. acid free \$199.95 (ISBN 0-313-33133-2).

The set might best be described as an encyclopedic and documentary history of third-wave feminism, 1991–2005. The first volume of this work is comprised of thematic essays formatted and arranged under conventional headings, each written by one or more contributors, and offering helpful bibliographies for further reading at the end of each entry. The volume also contains a chronological history that begins with 1991 and traces the movement through 2005.

The three waves of feminism are (roughly): the turn-of-the-century suffrage movement in the United States through the 1920s (first wave); a resurgence of political and academic focus on social inequity of the sexes through the 1960s and 1970s (second wave); and the recent, more global, more diverse inquiry of the social systems of sex and gender inequality (third wave). The term “third wave” is sometimes differentiated from “postfeminism,” which is usually seen as critical of the second wave. Alternatively, third-wave feminism is sometimes considered to be postfeminist because, although it continues the women’s movement, it also embraces conflicting ideologies, many of which criticize the second wave. This raises the question of whether this new reference set is unique or merely repeats information contained in other encyclopedias and dictionaries that focus on or include feminism.

There are several other reference works on feminism and women’s studies that take different approaches to third wave and postfeminism. For example, *International Encyclopedia of Women* (Routledge, 2000), *A Concise Glossary of Feminist Theory* (St. Martin’s, 1997), and *The Dictionary of Feminist Theory* (Ohio State Univ. Pr., 1995) all have entries on postfeminism, but none contain an entry for third wave. Another standard, *Women’s Studies Encyclopedia* (Greenwood, 1999), has entries for neither term, but does mention “postmodern feminists” and speaks at length about the second wave under the heading “Feminist Movement (1960 through early 1970).” *Encyclopedia of Women and Gender* (Academic, 2001) lists neither term.

The Women’s Movement Today contains entries that are included in these other works, such as backlash, division of labor, and marriage. However, a significant number of entries are unique, including transgender, drag kings, and feminazi. Likewise, the scope of people considered part of the movement is quite broad in *The Women’s Movement Today*. Although entries for such names as Susan Faludi, bell hooks, and Carol Gilligan are common to all of these works, and entries for such names as Alice Walker, Naomi Wolf, and Ophira Edut are found in some other works, such people as Daisy Hernandez, Michelle Tea, and Lil’ Kim are unique to *The Women’s Movement Today*. This breadth of persons, experiences, and terminology is a hallmark of the third wave and highlights the need for a reference work, such as this one, that goes beyond previous ones.

In addition to the standard index, *The Women’s Movement Today* also includes a cross-referenced topical list of entries, a

valuable feature. A unique feature of this work is the second volume: a 486-page anthology of sixty-four excerpts from journal articles and books that document, exemplify, and contextualize the development of the movement. Although some of the excerpts are brief, the volume is reasonably comprehensive. The entries are grouped thematically in the following sections: “Third-Wave Feminism: Definitions and Debates”; “Consumerism, Globalization and Third-Wave Lives”; “Resisting Culture”; and “Producing Third-Wave Identities, Naming Names.” A library with a good, up-to-date women’s studies section probably has all the excerpted titles on the shelf, but it is convenient to have the significant related ideas highlighted and collected in a single section.

High schools and colleges with programs that emphasize contemporary feminism will find this work concise and current, providing significant information that isn’t found in other reference works that one might already have. If you have such needs, there is a good chance that you will already have all the texts that are excerpted in the anthology volume, but the thematic arrangements are still helpful for demonstrating relationships between the writers. And the selected bibliography is worth noting; it includes sections for print material, Web sites, and movies. In short, while I wish there was less overlap with existing sources, what is unique (the format, selected entries, and the thematic groupings of entries and primary sources) does, by just a bit, justify adding this work to one’s collection, be that a library collection or a personal library.—Kevin Merriman, *Head of Collection Management, McNeese University, Lake Charles, Louisiana*

Youth Activism: An International Encyclopedia. Ed. by Lonnie R. Sherrod. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2006. 2 vols. acid free \$199.95 (ISBN 0-313-32811-0).

Youth Activism: An International Encyclopedia offers nearly 160 entries across two volumes. Indeed, “a work of this magnitude . . . offers . . . proof of the importance of youth activism in the modern world” (xxi). The front matter of both volumes includes a complete, alphabetical “List of Entries,” as well as a “Guide to Related Topics,” which categorizes the entries into eighteen broad areas. This useful guide lists some entries under more than one topic (for example, “Child Labor” appears under “Adolescent and Youth Development,” “Advocacy for Social Causes,” “Global and Transnational Issues,” and “Historical Examples, Causes, and Movements,” while “4-H” appears under “Adult Involvement with Youth,” “Organizations and Programs,” and “Positive Youth Development”). Thus the guide not only serves as a framework for the encyclopedia but also complements the cross references that follow the text entries.

Volume 1 includes three introductory essays by the editors, providing a justification for the encyclopedia and offering users some solid background reading. Each essay concludes with a lengthy list of references. The text in volume 2 is followed by an annotated “List of Useful Organizations” (including many international organizations), a bibliography (a