

***Encyclopedia of Psychology and Law.*** Ed. by Brian L. Cutler. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage, 2008. 2 vols. acid free \$350 (ISBN 978-1-4129-5189-0).

Why do murderers kill, juries convict, and the innocent confess? To delve into these and dozens of other questions, *Encyclopedia of Psychology and Law* offers approximately 350 signed articles written by scholars and practitioners. Most of the contributors are associated with American agencies and academic institutions.

Entries are organized alphabetically by titles such as “Battered Woman Syndrome,” “False Memories,” and “Pornography, Effects of Exposure to.” Headings like “CSI Effect,” “Stealing Thunder,” and “Suicide by Cop” will pique the curiosity of casual readers. Other entry titles will perplex the uninitiated, for instance, “Hare Psychopathy Checklist,” “Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory,” and “STATIC-99 and STATIC-2002 Instruments.” Fortunately, a very useful reader’s guide lists entries by theme (“Death Penalty,” “Forensic Assessment in Civil and Criminal Cases,” and “Violence Risk Assessment,” to name a few). The forty-page index provides additional assistance in locating relevant entries.

The range of topics is impressive. The exploration of criminal issues is particularly thorough, covering a variety of psychological disorders and conditions that may lead to criminal behavior through methods for determining competency and fitness for trial and on to sentencing, incarceration, and treatment. Also noteworthy is the number of entries on eyewitness memory and testimony. Although they are the subject of fewer articles, other categories illustrate the broad scope of this work: child custody and divorce, crime victims, juvenile offenders, and professional education and development.

The articles are well written in an academic style. They vary in length from one to five pages. Articles longer than two pages usually feature subheadings. Entries conclude with “see also” references that direct readers to related topics and further readings that identify articles, books, court opinions, and government reports. Most of the secondary sources were published in the last ten to fifteen years; cases span a much longer time period. Very few websites are cited.

The *Encyclopedia’s* imperfections are few. The contributors’ employers are listed, but not their departmental affiliations. Readers cannot distinguish a law professor from a criminalist. This omission may matter to some users. A table of cases cited would have been a useful appendix.

Although a substantial and growing body of law and psychology law literature exists, *Encyclopedia of Psychology and Law* has no competitors. It is a unique and valuable resource that is recommended for academic collections.—Cheryl Rae Nyberg, *Reference Librarian, Gallagher Law Library, University of Washington School of Law, Seattle*

***Encyclopedia of Race and Racism.*** Ed. by John H. Moore. Macmillan Social Science Library. Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA/Thomson Gale, 2008. 3 vols. alkaline \$345 (ISBN 978-0-02-866020-2).

In the introduction to *Encyclopedia of Race and Racism*,

editor John Moore explains the study of racism as having two perspectives: one from science and the other from the humanities. The scientific focuses on the racist theory debate among biologists with some proposing that “human groups, regional populations, [and] ‘races’ are significantly different from one another in their mental, artistic, and physical abilities” (xii) while others test the assertions and refute them. According to Moore, a substantial portion of the *Encyclopedia* is “devoted to examinations of particular propositions and how they have been criticized in the last three hundred years” (Ibid.). Moore goes on to state that “even if all racist assertions about human inequality are refuted, it remains to explain how and why these assertions were generated in the first place, and what functions these beliefs served in human society” (xiii). This is the humanist perspective. He further states, accurately, that while the nearly four hundred articles in the *Encyclopedia* are either biological or historical, many are both.

Given the complexity of the subject matter covered in this three-volume work, navigation tools are critical. Generally, Moore and his editorial board, who work in various disciplines, including African American studies, sociology, anthropology, educational psychology, natural sciences, and law, have provided users with helpful options for finding their way through the entries. The “Thematic Outline” at the beginning of volume one classifies the articles into 28 groupings. The themes direct the reader toward related articles that may not readily come to mind but that are clearly relevant. For example, under the “Latino/Hispanic Culture” heading, the reader is directed to the entry with the general title “Violence against Indigenous People, Latin America.” In addition to the “Thematic Outline,” at the end of each entry, there is a list of “see also” references. There is an extensive index; however, it only appears in volume three, rather than in all of the volumes.

Each article in the set is signed and contains a bibliography. The volumes are also supplemented with an annotated filmography that directs the reader to sources for finding films about race and racism, and some primary sources, although no selection criteria are outlined.

The content of three other reference works overlaps with *Encyclopedia of Race and Racism*, although none mirror the in-depth analytic treatment of the concept of racism, particularly from an international perspective. *Encyclopedia of Racism in the United States* (Greenwood, 2005), edited by Pyong Gap Min, has a narrower geographic focus with more descriptive entries about particular events, groups, terms, policies, individuals, and so forth than the Moore publication. Although it contains various articles pertaining to racism, Richard T. Schaefer’s *Encyclopedia of Race, Ethnicity, and Society* (Sage, 2008) is much broader in scope with substantial emphasis on various ethnic groups. It is also more descriptive than analytical. Ellis (Ernest) Cashmore’s one-volume *Encyclopedia of Race and Ethnic Studies* (Routledge, 2004) is similar to the Sage publication, but on a much smaller scale.

For those seeking a thoughtful, interdisciplinary treat-