

parents instill in their children the real value of money (the “share-save-spend” approach).

*Money Still Doesn't Grow on Trees: A Parent's Guide To Raising Financially Responsible Teenagers and Young Adults* by Neale S. Godfrey (Rodale, 2004) and *Raising Financially Fit Kids* by Joline Godfrey (Ten Speed Press, 2003) both provide common sense advice to help parents send their children positive messages about fiscal responsibility and the promotion of financial literacy.

*Capitate Your Kids: Teaching Your Teens Financial Independence* by John E. Whitcomb (Popcorn Press, 2000) uses the light touch to help parents teach teens fiscal responsibility through their own experiences and also provides lesson plans for budgeting.

One of the best books on this subject is *Teen Guide To Personal Financial Management* by Marjolijn Bijlefeld and Sharon K. Zoumbaris (Greenwood, 2000) because it covers such a wide spectrum of topics—savings, investing, taxes, credit cards, budgets, college costs, debts—along with appendixes on state resources and financial and tax forms.

Despite a large and growing number of books on finances for teens, *Debt Information for Teens* is unique in its narrower focus on a topic that is increasingly an area of concern for young workers and consumers.—*Betty Porter, Education Services Librarian, Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio*

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***The Drama 100: A Ranking of the Greatest Plays of All Time.*** By Daniel S. Burt. Facts On File Library of World Literature. New York: Facts On File, 2008. 624p. acid free \$45 (ISBN 978-0-8160-6073-3).

Why are “Top 100” lists so appealing? They are commonplace in today’s popular culture. A simple Web search of “Top 100” pulls up any list imaginable: top music hits, top health websites, top employers to work for. One hundred is a number of perfection—complete, flawless, whole—and a natural terminus. One hundred impresses, but does not overwhelm.

In *The Drama 100*, Daniel Burt, a professor of literature at Wesleyan University, has compiled a list of one hundred plays that fit his criteria of the greatest dramas ever written, those that “ask the hardest questions, those that pose, as the first dramas did, the fundamental questions and dilemmas that define our lives and times” (xii). Entries are between five and seven pages in length and include a discussion of the playwright, the importance of the work to contemporaneous and future drama, and a plot summary. Helpful for the reader is a chronological listing of the plays—from Aeschylus’s *Oresteia* (458 BC) to Kushner’s *Angels in America* (1991–92)—and a listing of another hundred honorable mentions.

Burt is the author of two similar books in this same series: *The Literary 100* (Facts On File, 2001) and *The Novel 100* (Facts On File, 2004). He is also keenly aware of the inherent problems when proclaiming any grouping as “Greatest.” In his introduction, Burt considers the merit of his list, noting “reader’s views and preferences will certainly collide with and

diverge from mine. . . . I am no stranger to the contentiousness and objections such an effort can provoke. However, provocation can be a good thing when it leads to an engagement with questions of literary merit. Looking at writers and literary works comparatively, beyond narrow cultural and historical divisions, is a rejuvenating and liberating activity—for writer and reader alike” (ix).

Librarians might ponder the appropriateness of this book for a noncirculating reference section, not because of its content, but rather because it is a book one might want to check out and read. However, the length and detail of the entries make it a handy reference book, providing a quick yet informed introduction to a particular play. It holds its own with the available reference books on the subject. Although John Shipley’s *Crown Guide to the World’s Best Plays* (Crown, 1984) covers more titles, its entries generally tend to be shorter and review production history. *Drama for Students* (Gale, 1998), geared specifically for high school students and undergraduates, provides more criticism per play but covers far fewer works. *The Drama 100* is well-suited for all public and academic libraries; those who teach literature or theatre may be particularly interested in its acquisition.—*Kristina Lampe Shanton, Music Librarian, Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York*

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***Encyclopedia of Epidemiology.*** Ed. by Sarah Boslaugh. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage, 2008. 2 vols. acid-free \$350 (ISBN 978-1-4129-2816-8).

Epidemiology can be defined as the study of health risks and identification of frequencies and determinants underlying morbidity and mortality. Morbidity refers to the relative rate of disease in either a population, place, or across time, whereas the term mortality refers to the relative rate of death in relation to these variables. Editor Sarah Boslaugh, at Washington University School of Medicine, and associate editor Louise-Anne McNutt from University of Albany, with the guidance of an advisory board, have assembled a superb set of articles from 294 contributors from universities and organizations worldwide. The 486 articles provide a comprehensive overview of important topics in the epidemiology field. This arrangement is extremely valuable because it may be difficult to quickly access the same information by other means.

Each volume begins with an alphabetical “List of Entries.” Additional aids for users include a readers guide, index, and cross-referencing. The readers guide subdivides entries into fourteen broad topical headings: Behavioral and Social Science; Branches of Epidemiology; Diseases and Conditions; Epidemiological Concepts; Epidemiologic Data; Ethics; Genetics; Health Care Economics and Management; Health Risks and Health Behaviors; History and Biography; Infrastructure of Epidemiology and Public Health; Medical Care and Research; Specific Populations; and Statistics and Research Methods.

Notable sections include “Specific Populations,” which offers exemplary overviews of health issues in major ethnic and minority groups, such as African Americans, Latinos,

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and immigrants and refugees; and “Statistics and Research Methods,” which furnishes 142 entries for various techniques, such as normal distribution, null and alternative hypotheses, and peer review process. The latter category of entries contains numerous visuals and tables to further assist understanding.

The index to the overall set is provided at the end of each volume. The index highlights main article topics and corresponding volumes and page numbers in boldface. The cross-referencing further illuminates interrelationships between topics. For example, the entry for obesity tells users to see the related entries for body mass index, cardiovascular disease, chronic disease epidemiology, diabetes, and urban sprawl.

The length of articles ranges from a paragraph to several pages. Longer articles usually are divided by relevant topical subheadings, which along with the article title appear in boldface. For example, the entry for Latino health issues has the subheadings of: sociodemographic facts in Latino health, diabetes, asthma, cancer, cardiovascular and pulmonary health issues, and acquired immune deficiency syndrome. All articles end with a brief bibliography and the author's name. Select entries also provide a brief listing of related websites.

The only shortcoming in this work is that no information is provided about the authors' credentials beyond their institutional affiliation. Each entry concludes with the author's name; the full list of contributors and affiliations is included in the first volume.

The editors of *Encyclopedia of Epidemiology* have identified a gap in the literature and prepared a well-designed and information-rich reference that is long overdue. The resource will be especially useful for students wanting to explore frequent report topics such as euthanasia, physical activity and health, pollution, poverty and health, and tobacco from epidemiological perspectives. Therefore, this work is recommended for all academic collections. It can also be used by researchers, policymakers, and other professionals.—*Caroline Geck, Librarian, Kean University, Union, New Jersey*

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***Encyclopedia of Gay and Lesbian Popular Culture.*** By Luca Prono. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2008. 328p. alkaline \$85 (ISBN 978-0-313-33599-0).

Prono's slim, but thoughtful, collection of essays focuses on well-known American and British individuals whose works, words, and deeds have helped “redefine and shape” contemporary views of gays and lesbians (xi). The author also aims to educate readers about the difficulties of obtaining such visibility in a popular culture historically ruled by a powerful media, including the Hollywood film and television industry. By focusing the encyclopedia only on popular culture, he has successfully moved his point of view across for a general readership.

For the most part, entries are biographical in nature. A small selection addresses a particular film or television program that has impacted the popular culture. The contents closely follow the social and cultural evolution and revolution

of the United States from the 1960s forward, so most of the entries are from the later twentieth-century time period. Prono casts a wide net for his entries and includes writers, actors, sports figures, film directors, and musicians. Significant figures from earlier periods of the twentieth century, those who either have a continuing influence on gay and lesbian popular culture (e.g., Judy Garland and Barbara Stanwyck), or those whose sexuality was hidden behind a successful career and well-managed public relations campaign (e.g., Rock Hudson and Raymond Burr) are also included. The writing is engaging and interesting; it is readable and accessible to wide audience.

Similar works have captured a broader scope of gay and lesbian history, notably Steve Hogan and Lee Hudson's *Completely Queer: The Gay and Lesbian Encyclopedia* (Henry Holt, 1998) and Neil Schlager's *Gay and Lesbian Almanac* (St. James, 1998). Prono's work is a welcome update in the field. It falls in between the short treatments of Hogan and Hudson and the longer treatments of Schlager. Each entry is two to three pages and includes suggestions for further reading.

There is some minor fact checking needed for a second edition, (e.g., Sylvester was a member of the Cockettes, not the Crockettes), as well as the usual typos or grammar problems that slip by in the first edition. That being said, this is a recommended purchase for public or college libraries.—*Christopher Lee Cochran, Reference Librarian, Washington, D.C.*

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***Encyclopedia of Geographic Information Science.*** Ed. by Karen K. Kemp. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage, 2008. 584p. acid free \$150 (ISBN 978-1-4129-1313-3).

“Geographic information Science is an information science focusing on the collection, modeling, management, display, and interpretation of geographic data. It is an integrative field, combining concepts, theories, and techniques from a wide range of disciplines, allowing new insights and innovative synergies for increased understanding of our world” (xxii). This definition of geographic information science (GISci) by editor Karen Kemp is as clear and succinct a definition as I have seen and it sets the tone for the volume. *Encyclopedia of Geographic Information Science* is an interdisciplinary work that successfully explores the depth, breadth, and diverse content of GISci. Even the correct acronym is not universally agreed upon. Kemp's strong interest in GISci education as well as GISci research is inherent in the character, content, and organization of this volume. In 2004, she was named the University Consortium for Geographic Information Science (UCGIS) Educator of the Year.

I would characterize the volume as a hybrid: part encyclopedia, part dictionary, and part textbook. A reader's guide section is enlightening and helps one to understand the concepts and their interrelationships. In some respects, it can be considered a concept map of the topics in the volume. These range from the mechanisms of GISci, such as conceptual foundations, data manipulation, design aspects, and