

more than reasonable, and it is also available as an electronic book.—Sara Anne Hook, Professor, Indiana University, Indianapolis, Indiana

Encyclopedia of Motherhood. Edited by Andrea O'Reilly. Los Angeles: Sage, 2010. 3 vols. Acid-free \$375 (ISBN: 978-1-412-96846-1). E-book available (ISBN: 978-1-429-7927-6), \$470.

The *Encyclopedia of Motherhood* is the first reference work dedicated to the interdisciplinary study of motherhood. While other reference works, such as Charles A. Smith's *Encyclopedia of Parenting Theory and Research* (Greenwood, 1999) or Barbara Katz Rothman's *Encyclopedia of Childbearing: Critical Perspectives* (Oryx, 1993) might share some common entries, the current work uses the unique lens of motherhood studies to examine in a new light what might have previously been covered elsewhere.

The editor, Andrea O'Reilly, has a long record of motherhood scholarship and activism and is thus exceptionally well qualified to edit this work. She is “founder and director of the Association for Research on Mothering, founder and editor-in-chief of the *Journal of the Association for Research on Mothering*, and founder and editor of Demeter Press, the first feminist press on motherhood. She is cofounder of the Museum of Motherhood . . . and is cofounder of the International Mothers Network, the first international consortium of motherhood organizations” (vi). She is also the editor or coeditor of fourteen books on motherhood and author of two books on motherhood thus far.

The purpose of the encyclopedia, which it clearly satisfies, is “to introduce readers to and provide information on the central terms, concepts, topics, issues, themes, debates, theories, and texts of this new discipline of motherhood studies as well as to examine the topic of motherhood in various contexts such as history and geography and by academic discipline” (viii). The encyclopedia in its coverage also pays special attention to “geographical, cultural and ethnic diversity” (ix).

The entries are written by appropriately credentialed academics, as well as experts outside of academia, such as Diana Lynn Barnes of the Center for Postpartum Health, who wrote “Infanticide.” The entries are filled with useful statistics and references, yet are very readable.

Special features of the work include a reader's guide, which is helpful in tying concepts gathered from a wide variety of disciplines together. The work also includes a chronology of motherhood, a glossary, a resource guide, and an appendix of motherhood statistics around the world. All of these sections serve to further contextualize and explicate the standard entries. While many of the topics covered in *The Encyclopedia of Motherhood* are also covered in other reference sources, the distinct perspective of motherhood studies makes these entries unique. Even topics familiar to most readers will have something new to offer, which makes this a fascinating and highly browsable work.

This encyclopedia is recommended for larger public

libraries and most academic libraries.—Emily Dill, Associate Librarian, University Library of Columbus, Columbus, Indiana

Milestone Documents in World History: Exploring the Primary Sources That Shaped the World. Edited by Brian Bonhomme. Dallas: Schlager, 2010. 4 vols. Acid-free \$395 (ISBN: 978-0-979-77586-4). Online access included with purchase of print.

Covering the entire span of humanity's written history, the four volumes in this set include primary documents arranged in chronological order beginning with the Reform Edict of Urukagina (ca. 2350 BCE) and ending with the Constitutive Act of the African Union, which was signed at Lomé, Togo, on July 11, 2000. From this span of over 4,000 years, the editors and the advisory board selected 125 major documents that represent all inhabited geographical regions of the earth, although the selection excludes primary sources from the United States that are covered in three other titles in the series. This set does include a few documents drawn from world religions, but many more religious primary sources are covered in *Milestone Documents of World Religions* (Schlager, November 2010). One main weakness of the set, however, is the lack of clarity on the selection process. For example, why is Plato's allegory of the cave included, but not his *Apology of Socrates* or a selection from his *Republic*, which have also had enormous impact on Western civilization?

The seventy-five contributors, primarily historians from the United States, although almost twenty are based at foreign universities, follow a standard format for the article on each document. Coverage includes an overview of the document and its importance in history, the context of the document, a time line of key events surrounding the document, a biographical profile of the author or authors, an explanation and analysis of the document, the intended audience, the historical impact of the document, questions for further study, essential quotes from and about the document, further readings, the actual text of the document in English translation, and a glossary of important terms in the text. Thus a student who uses this resource will be able to both read the document and immediately have access to information that will help in understanding its importance to world history. Almost 250 photographs and illustrations accompany the articles. Although most of the illustrations are superfluous, several, such as the photograph of the stele of Hammurabi, are helpful in that they visibly illustrate the actual document. Other features of the set include activity guides for teachers, a list of documents by category (such as laws and legal codes or treaties and agreements), a list of documents by region, and a subject index.

For teachers and students in world history survey courses, especially those in high school and lower division college classes, this will be a useful resource. Not only does it provide access to the text of important documents, it also provides a wealth of contextual information that will assist in understanding the documents themselves. Other titles cover similar grounds, but there is little overlap between them. For