There are no truly comparable recent encyclopedias addressing global resources, although many of the topics covered in the Encyclopedia of Global Resources can be found in other scientific or general encyclopedias. For example, “Oil Shale and Tar Sands” is an article in Global Resources, whereas each of these topics has its own, more technically detailed coverage in the McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science and Technology (McGraw-Hill, 2007) under “Oil Sand” and “Oil Shale.” Similarly, “Oil Shale” in the Encyclopaedia Britannica Online Academic Edition (Encyclopaedia Britannica, www.britannica.com) is less technically described but includes a longer historical treatment. Global Resources, on the other hand, provides a concise overview suitable for high school students and laypeople and through the assigned category “Energy Resources” leads them to additional, related topics within the set. Information in Global Resources is technical but not dense. The benefit of the Encyclopedia of Global Resources is that it does group a wide range of natural resources and related topics, organizations, laws, and people together in a single resource and describes them in ways that are easy to understand yet not oversimplified. The category index further assists researchers in finding related topics within the scope of this set. The Encyclopedia of Global Resources is highly recommended for large public and high school libraries and recommended for academic institutions, particularly within an undergraduate library collection.—Aimee de Chambeau, Associate Librarian, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, New York


The Encyclopedia of Group Processes and Intergroup Relations, edited by John M. Levine (University of Pittsburgh) and Michael A. Hogg (Claremont Graduate University), is a unique two-volume behavioral science reference work. Within this work, hundreds of entries are listed alphabetically and organized through a subject-oriented reader's guide for ease of use. The entries are provided by authoritative experts and represent a wide variety of topics, such as “Reverse Discrimination,” “Dyads,” and “Terrorism.” The entries also include biographical entries discussing the theories and the important works of the theorist. Each entry contains a cross reference list, as well as a list of further readings. It is difficult to make a comparison to other reference works because of the unique content of the Encyclopedia of Group Processes and Intergroup Relations. When looking at other related reference resources, there are differences in the way each reference work views the group behavior. The Corsini Encyclopedia of Psychology and Behavioral Science (Wiley, 2001), edited by Craighead and Nemeroff, and Nadel's Encyclopedia of Cognitive Science (Nature Publishing Group, 2003) are similar works, but focus more on psychology rather than group behavior. The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Social Psychology, edited by Manstead and Hewstone (Blackwell, 1999) is a resource that has similar concepts and search terms from the Encyclopedia of Group Relations and Intergroup Processes. Another similar resource is Clegg and Bailey's International Encyclopedia of Organizational Studies (Sage, 2008) This reference work offers a historical perspective and discusses more of workplace organizational theory, which perhaps is most similar to the focus of the Encyclopedia of Group Processes and Intergroup Relations. The true difference between the Encyclopedia of Group Processes and Intergroup Relations and the other encyclopedias is the varied entries and the more holistic view of behavioral science that it provides. It utilizes terms from the social sciences that are pertinent to behavioral science, which produces a more well-rounded perspective of group behavior.

One of the strengths of this work is the distinctive nature of this reference source. It combines elements of many excellent reference works into a concise reference book. Entries in the Encyclopedia of Group Processes and Intergroup Relations are easily accessible to all, from the beginning student to the experienced researcher, and clearly explain complex behavioral science concepts. A weakness of the book is that it might be difficult at first glance to know what topics the work contains. The work is most effective if utilized electronically through online reference collections. Through such an interface, this work would nicely complement social psychology and behavioral sciences reference collections. Whether paper format or electronic format, this encyclopedia is a welcome addition to any large reference collection. The Encyclopedia of Group Processes and Intergroup Relations is best suited for academic libraries and public libraries with large reference collections.—Alisa C. Gonzalez, Social Sciences Librarian/Reference Coordinator, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico


This six-volume set edited by Christopher H. Sterling (professor of media and public affairs and of public policy and public administration at George Washington University) is now the go-to traditional reference source for this wide-ranging and rapidly changing discipline. Due to its coverage of U.S. and foreign journalism, it is broader in scope than the single-volume Encyclopedia of American Journalism (Routledge, 2008).

The first four volumes follow an A-to-Z arrangement and contain more than 350 readable entries of 1,000 to 4,000 words on contemporary and historical topics from blogs and citizen journalism to muckrakers and the newspaper Public Occurrences. Written by experts and scholars, each entry also contains a section of further readings and “see also” references when appropriate. Photos and illustrations are, sadly, rare. A