

---

# Sources

## Reference Books

Tammy J. Eschedor Voelker, Editor

<i>America Goes Green: An Encyclopedia of Eco-Friendly Culture in the United States</i> . . . . .	196
<i>The Early Medieval World: From the Fall of Rome to the Time of Charlemagne</i> . . . . .	197
<i>Eating Disorders: An Encyclopedia of Causes, Treatment, and Prevention</i> . . . . .	197
<i>Encyclopedia of National Dress: Traditional Clothing Around the World</i> . . . . .	197
<i>Encyclopedia of Street Crime in America</i> . . . . .	198
<i>Encyclopedia of the Environment in American Literature</i> . . . . .	199
<i>Japan at War: An Encyclopedia</i> . . . . .	199
<i>The Jerome Kern Encyclopedia</i> . . . . .	200
<i>The Margaret Mitchell Encyclopedia</i> . . . . .	200
<i>Marriage Customs of the World: An Encyclopedia of Dating Customs and Wedding Traditions</i> . . . . .	201
<i>Mental Health Care Issues in America: An Encyclopedia</i> . . . . .	201
<i>Nation Shapes: The Story Behind the World's Borders</i> . . . . .	202
<i>The Sage Reference Series on Disability: Key Issues and Future Directions</i> . . . . .	203

RUSQ considers for review reference books and professional materials of interest to reference and user services librarians. Serials and subscription titles normally are not reviewed unless a major change in purpose, scope, format, or audience has occurred. Reviews usually are three hundred to five hundred words in length. Views expressed are those of the reviewers and do not necessarily represent those of ALA. Please refer to standard directories for publishers' addresses.

Correspondence concerning these reviews should be addressed to "Reference Sources" editor, Tammy Eschedor Voelker, Humanities Librarian, Kent State University, 1125 Risman Dr., Kent OH 44242; e-mail: tvoelker@kent.edu

*America Goes Green: An Encyclopedia of Eco-Friendly Culture in the United States*. Edited by Kim Kennedy White and Leslie H. Durham. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2012. 3 vols. Acid free \$294 (ISBN: 978-1-59884-657-7). E-book available (978-1-59884-658-4), call for pricing.

What it means to be green or eco-friendly as an individual, community, or nation is difficult to define or quantify. Concepts like sustainable development, economic justice, and carbon footprint are open to interpretation; and the meaning of these concepts is evolving as society comes to a better understanding of man's impact on the earth and the need to address all environmental issues. Therefore, any effort to go green on any scale needs to be an informed effort and an encyclopedia like *America Goes Green* offers a broad, interdisciplinary approach to identifying the issues and making productive decisions.

Editor, Kim Kennedy White and contributing editor, Leslie A. Duram have gathered 160 academic and environmental writers to create a three-volume reference work. Volume one and the first half of volume two are comprised of thematic entries organized under major categories such as "Arts, Entertainment, and Media" and "Food and Drink." The signed entries are three to six pages in length, include a reference list, and are complimented by black and white photography. A special feature of many of the entries is the inclusion of a sidebar called "greenovation" or "greenovator" which describes individuals or activities related to the issue detailed in the entry. The second half of volume two provides an alphabetical list of primary documents related to environmental issues. These documents include the texts of public laws on clean water, conference proceedings from environmental summits, and informational reports from the Environmental Protection Agency. Volume three is comprised of entries on individual U.S. states that summarize the local environmental issues and describe community efforts and initiatives to lessen the effect of man's presence or repair the damage done to ecosystems. Volume three also includes a six-page glossary of terms, a twenty-page list of resources with web addresses, and an extensive index.

In her introduction Kim Kennedy White states that this reference work "explores the development of green practices and eco-friendly mindfulness in contemporary American culture. Entries will present the debates, trends, viewpoints, and challenges of green living" (xix). This reviewer would agree with this estimation and add that this work is an important new title on environmental issues where the most current information and research are especially needed to inform the reader.

In comparison, the most recent encyclopedia on a similar topic is Gall and Antone's *Worldmark Encyclopedia of U.S. and Canadian Environmental Issues* (Gale Cengage Learning, 2012), which is a one-volume work that describes environmental issues in the United States and Canada at the state or province level. However *America Goes Green: An Encyclopedia of Eco-Friendly Culture in the United States* offers a broader

scope, greater depth, and current perspective on this important societal issue and this reviewer recommends this work for any academic or public library.—Paul MacLennan, Reference Assistant, CSU-East Bay Library, Hayward, California

---

***The Early Medieval World: From the Fall of Rome to the Time of Charlemagne.*** By Michael Frassetto. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2013. 2 vols. Acid free \$189 (ISBN: 978-1-59884-995-0). E-book available (978-1-59884-996-7), call for pricing.

*The Early Medieval World: From the Fall of Rome to the Time of Charlemagne* is a comprehensive two-volume reference work that provides 250 in-depth introductory entries discussing the rich social and material culture of early medieval Europe. The encyclopedia depicts the era from the fall of the western Roman Empire to the fall of the Carolingians as a transformative period, in clear contrast to the traditional image of the period as the “Dark Ages”—a time of general barbarity and ignorance.

The work begins with an introductory essay on the historiography of the early medieval world and includes an accessible historical overview of this period. A comprehensive 13-page chronology follows, starting at 305 CE with the retirement of Emperors Diocletian and Maximian and ending with the writing of *Beowulf* in 1000 CE

The alphabetically arranged entries, all of which were written by Frassetto, detail the laws and governments, barbarian peoples and dynasties, leaders, religions, major battles, and cultural and intellectual trends of this influential period. Almost all entries are 2–8 pages in length and include cross-references and a bibliography of print and online sources for further reading. Frassetto presents a remarkable breadth of topics ranging from marriage in the early medieval world, barbarian art, monasticism, to dozens of entries describing key personalities and groups of people, such as Clovis, the Visigoths, and Gregory I. The encyclopedia concludes with dozens of primary document excerpts, an appendix listing the rulers of early medieval Europe, an extensive 20 page bibliography, and an index.

*The Early Medieval World* compares favorably with other works in the field, such as John M. Jeep’s *Medieval Germany: An Encyclopedia* (Garland, 2001), E. Michael Gerli’s *Medieval Iberia: An Encyclopedia* (Routledge, 2003), Sean Duffy’s *Medieval Ireland: An Encyclopedia* (Routledge, 2005), and Paul Szarmach’s *Medieval England: An Encyclopedia* (Garland, 1998), however *The Early Medieval World* is a unique offering because of its broad geographical and specific focus on the early medieval period. Libraries that already own Frassetto’s previously published work, *Encyclopedia of Barbarian Europe* (ABC-CLIO, 2003) may not want to purchase *The Early Medieval World* because much of the content is duplicated. Recommended for the reference collections of public and academic libraries as well as for high school libraries.—Colleen Lougen, *Electronic Resources Librarian, State University of New York, New Paltz*

---

***Eating Disorders: An Encyclopedia of Causes, Treatment, and Prevention.*** Edited by Justine J. Reel. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2013. 498 p. Acid free \$100 (ISBN: 978-1-4408-0058-0). E-book available (978-1-4408-0059-7), call for pricing.

Most recently, the only encyclopedic resource to make eating disorders an integral part of its focus was Dana K. Cassell and David H. Gleaves’ *The Encyclopedia of Obesity and Eating Disorders* (Facts On File, 2000), leaving a gap filled by *Eating Disorders: An Encyclopedia of Causes, Treatment, and Prevention*. There are 175 articles included in the 498 page, single volume encyclopedia. The articles are arranged alphabetically, following a loose formatting that generally includes the topic’s definition, overview and history, related articles, conclusion and bibliography. Article length averages 2 pages, though at times they vary widely in length from 1 to 7 pages, and some are accompanied by photographs or illustrations. Also included are a table of contents, timeline, appendix containing two case illustrations, and index.

*Eating Disorders: An Encyclopedia of Causes, Treatment, and Prevention* covers all eating disorders recognized by the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. It addresses possible origins of distorted body image from participation in aesthetic sports, team sports, family influences, certain social groups, and personality disorders. It explains various methods of treatment varying from Dialectical Behavior Therapy to equine therapy, as well as prevention through assessment and early warning signs. Lastly, it also includes articles on Karen Carpenter and selective university campus groups that seem on the fringe of its intended scope.

*Eating Disorders: An Encyclopedia of Causes, Treatment, and Prevention*’s strength lays in its conciseness, which does not overwhelm the reader with a glut of information while providing a good starting point for research. It does not just inform on the different types of eating disorders, but addresses the societal pressures and other disorders that often lead to or stem from an eating disorder, which might be useful to the reader in matters of serendipitous discovery of topics.

On the other hand, there seems to be a bias by the editor throughout the volume, starting with a personal introduction that appears to have influenced the selection of article topics. There are also very few illustrations and photographs accompanying the articles, and the photographs that are included are mainly of high profile people who suffered from eating disorders.

This resource seems intended for low-level undergraduates. I recommend with reservation.—Abigail Creitz, *Technical Services Librarian, Vincennes University, Vincennes, Indiana*

---

***Encyclopedia of National Dress: Traditional Clothing Around the World.*** Edited by Jill Condra. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2013. 2 vols. Acid free \$189 (ISBN: 978-0-313-37636-8). E-book available (978-0-313-37637-5), call for pricing.

This 2-volume set marks ABC-CLIO’s entry into the field of world dress and costume studies. While the publisher’s