

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

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Greenwood imprint offers numerous reference works on fashion throughout history, including the 3-volume *Greenwood Encyclopedia of Clothing through World History*, this newest work studies traditional clothing as an expression of cultural, social, and ethnic identity. Editor Jill Condra emphasizes the timeliness of studying national dress as a form of historic preservation, especially during a period of increased homogenization and globalization of social, cultural, and ethnic traditions.

The *Encyclopedia of National Dress: Traditional Clothing Around the World* features entries by 46 contributing scholars and curators worldwide. (A brief biographical entry for each author is provided at the end of volume 2.) More than 130 nations and ethnic regions are represented in approximately 80 entries, and the organizational structure is standardized throughout the set. Each entry contains an overview of historical and geographical background, as well as in depth discussions of clothing and people in each country and region, including sections on materials and techniques of clothing and textile production.

A complete “Entry Guide” is provided at the beginning of each volume indicating the beginning page of each entry, but it is puzzling that volume numbers are omitted from these entries. For example, to locate entries for Greece or China one must first thumb through the entire set to locate the appropriate page range. However, volume 2 includes a lengthy bibliography, an index, and a useful list of “Museums with National Dress and Textile Collections.” Entries vary in length from 8 to 12 pages and end with a “Further Reading and Resources” section containing recommended print and electronic resources. Entries on China, Japan, Ethiopia, the Caribbean Islands, Nigeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Mexico provide clear and concise overviews of traditional dress, decorative accessories, as well as sections on contemporary culture. Michelle Hardy, Curator of Decorative Arts at the Nickle Arts Museum in Calgary, Alberta, contributes an entry on the history and diversity of traditional clothing in India, including sections on materials and techniques, jewelry, body paint and body modifications, as well as contemporary use of ethnic dress. In addition, Hardy includes an important section on India’s innovations in textile dyes and design and the impact of these designs on the European textile trade during the 17th through 19th centuries.

In the “Introduction” to the *Encyclopedia of National Dress*, Condra acknowledges the historic and contemporary intersections between fashion and art, noting that clothing can often be viewed as works of art and “Great beauty can be seen in the designs of particular garments, their material, and how they drape the human form” (1:xi). It is therefore disappointing that the illustrations in these volumes are few and far between and of such poor resolution that readers may not appreciate the fine design motifs, textile patterns, textures, and beadwork described in the well written and researched entries. Readers may instead need to refer to Eicher and Ross’s *Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion* (Oxford University Press, 2010). This 9-volume set offers students

and researchers numerous illustrations and photographs of textiles, national clothing, and accessories worldwide and throughout history. Nevertheless, the compact, concise format of *Encyclopedia of National Dress* provides an easy to read introduction to the history of world dress and ethnic traditions. This reference work is recommended for public, high school, and community college collections.—*Lauren Marcus, Reference Librarian, State University of New York at New Paltz*

Encyclopedia of Street Crime in America. Edited by Jeffrey Ian Ross. Los Angeles: Sage Reference, 2013. 538 p. \$115 (ISBN: 978-1-4129-9957-1).

This reference work explores the complex origins and effects of street crime, loosely defined as crimes that occur in public spaces, typically within urban and metropolitan areas. Street crimes generally fit into two main categories, crimes against property and crimes against people. Editor Jeffrey Ross (Criminal Justice, University of Baltimore), has compiled a single-volume of compelling essays, covering the history as well as types of street crime, theories and trends, prevention strategies, well-known cases, as well as information about the social factors associated with street crime.

In addition to the 175 A–Z entries written by contributing scholars, the encyclopedia features a chronology of street crime in the United States, 1630–present, a thematic subject guide, a glossary and index, and a resource guide listing books, journals, and websites. Entries cover various topics relating to street crime including history and popular culture, law enforcement and courts, nonviolent and violent crime, perpetrators and victims, gangs and organized crime, and criminology theory related to urban life. The entries are clear and well-written, each containing a concise conclusion, cross-references, and further readings. An excellent addition to the encyclopedia is the 30-page appendix, “Street Crime Trends in America’s 25 Largest Cities Over the Past 24 Years” based on FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, and National Archive of Criminal Justice Data.

This engaging encyclopedia should appeal to students of criminal justice/criminology, criminal justice practitioners, as well as to members of the general public with an interest in crime, criminal justice, and the sociology of street crime. It offers up-to-date, thought-provoking information on a popular topic with broad appeal.

When making purchase selections for a library, note that Sage offers numerous reference works with focused analysis of key criminal justice topics, such as the *Complete Crime & Punishment Series* (2011), the *Encyclopedia of Race and Crime* (2009), the *Encyclopedia of Victimology and Crime Prevention* (2010), and the *Social History of Crime and Punishment in America: An Encyclopedia* (2012), as well as other titles available in print or ebooks through Sage Knowledge online. In particular, the 5-volume *Social History of Crime and Punishment in America: An Encyclopedia* (2012) offers a broad exploration of the history and philosophy of crime, criminal justice, and punishment in America from colonial times through