

SOURCES

Now, the preferred courses are often counseling and medications. The stated purpose of *Mental Health Care Issues in America: An Encyclopedia* (MHClIA) is to “provide an overview” of this shift, including its benefits and limitations (xv).

Although Shally-Jensen does not hold a related degree or work in the mental health field, many of MHClIA's contributors are faculty or graduate students in relevant disciplines within institutions offering APA or CSWE-accredited programs in Clinical Psychology or Social Work. MHClIA includes approximately 115 entries arranged alphabetically and contains entries on many timely topics, such as insurance law, patient rights, and veteran's mental health care. Each is typically 6–8 pages long and written at a high-school or early undergraduate reading level. Each includes bibliographies, notably containing numerous citations to current scholarly literature.

Various criticisms can be made of MHClIA's coverage. Given MHClIA's “Introduction,” which emphasizes the transition from residential to community-based care, I was surprised not to find more information about the system (or un-system?) itself. An entry on “Community Mental Health” briefly describes certain care models (assertive community treatment, case management, and family psychoeducation), but there seem to be no entries that describe the vast non-profit sector which offers information and support to patients and caregivers. Likewise, the entries on “Insurance and Parity Laws;” “Poverty, Unemployment, Economic Inequality, and Mental Health;” “Preventative Mental Health Programs;” and “Workplace Issues and Mental Health” do not describe employee assistance programs and other in-house efforts to support workers' mental health. Also, of 115 entries, approximately one-third address specific disorders, from Alzheimer's disease, to Posttraumatic Stress Disorders, to Suicide. Typically, such entries provide information about prevalence, risk factors, causes, diagnostic criteria, the courses of the disorders, and interventions/treatments. Such basic information is already available through the American Psychological Association's Help Center (a site for consumers, see www.apa.org/helpcenter/index.aspx), through MedlinePlus (for a list of mental health information available through this site, see www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/mentalhealthandbehavior.html), and through other reputable, specialized organizations such as the American Sleep Association (www.aasmnet.org) or CHADD (Children and Adults with ADHD, www.chadd.org). Thus a substantial portion of MHClIA does not provide unique information.

There are several other reference sources besides MHClIA, including the *Gale Encyclopedia of Mental Health*, 3rd ed. (Gale, 2012). For those interested in the medical model of treatment, the *Gale Encyclopedia* provides many more entries on assessments (such as the Children's Depression Inventory); drug treatments (such as amphetamines, used for ADHD, depression, and obesity); and natural therapies (like ginkgo biloba, used for some patients with dementia). In addition, Sage offers entire encyclopedias on some of the topics which MHClIA treats in single entries, including Sage's *Encyclopedia*

of Family Health (2011), *Encyclopedia of Homelessness* (2004), *Encyclopedia of Interpersonal Violence* (2008), and *Encyclopedia of Substance Abuse Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery* (2009).

In summary, MHClIA may be appropriate for high school or public libraries with small collections which desire to offer a basic print source on mental health care. For libraries which already have substantial holdings in clinical psychology and social work, this is an optional purchase.—Bernadette A. Lear, *Behavioral Sciences and Education Librarian, Penn State Harrisburg Library, Middletown, Pennsylvania*

Nation Shapes: The Story Behind the World's Borders.

By Fred M. Shelley. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2013. 634 p. Acid free \$100 (ISBN: 978-1-61069-105-5). E-book available (978-1-61069-106-2), call for pricing.

Dr. Shelley, professor of geography at the University of Oklahoma and a prolific author on geography-related subjects, has compiled an informative source of up to date information on the land boundaries of each of the nearly 200 countries of the world. He begins with a helpful introduction that establishes the context for the rest of the work, explaining the difference between nations and states, the development of the concept of state sovereignty, and how this relates to boundaries. “Sovereignty is associated with control of territory. In order to determine the geographic limits of sovereignty, boundaries have been established” (xi). He further defines the primary types of boundaries and their relationship to the development of the modern state system.

The main body of the book is divided into seven chapters: Europe, the Americas, Sub-Saharan Africa, Southwest Asia and North Africa, East and Central Asia, South and Southeast Asia, and Australia and Oceania. Following a two- to four-page overview of each broad region are entries for each country within it. The entries follow a standard format. First, an overview including land area, population, and a list of boundaries with adjoining countries or natural features, is provided. Next, the “Historical Context” section summarizes the development of the country and its borders up to the present. Finally, “Contemporary Issues” (not present in all entries) treats current tensions and conflicts within and between countries. For example, the discussion of China includes three internal groups: the Uighurs, the Tibetans, and the nationalist government on Taiwan. The China section also mentions a 2012 dispute between China and Japan over some islands in the South China Sea. “See also” references to related countries and a brief “further reading” list conclude each entry. Page length for the country “vignette” ranges from approximately two to six pages.

An outline-style map is included for each geographic entity discussed. They are black and white but utilize shading. Despite the limitations imposed by the volume's 10” X 7” dimensions, they are quite useful in helping the reader to visualize the borders described in the text. Scales vary widely, which is to be expected considering the coverage ranges from Russia to Vatican City. The primary weakness is indistinct

borderlines in some cases, for example the United Kingdom (141) where it is hard to discern the boundary between England and Scotland.

Following the main section is a selective bibliography (one and one-half pages) and an index. The index is helpful in pinpointing references to people, events, geographic features such as mountains and rivers, and political subdivisions lacking their own entries.

The only directly comparable work this reviewer could locate is Gideon Biger's *The Encyclopedia of International Boundaries* (Facts on File, 1995). It too offers comprehensive worldwide coverage including historical background and present situation, along with similar outline maps (and also photographs of border regions, border crossing stations, and the like), but is somewhat dated. There are many more reference works on boundaries, but most confine themselves to specific countries or regions. Diener and Hagen's *Borders: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press, 2012) may serve as a complement to the specific coverage of *Nation Shapes* by offering a concise overview of the interdisciplinary field of border studies and thereby providing context.

Nation Shapes largely achieves its stated purpose of addressing fundamental questions regarding how boundaries came to be, how they evolved over time, and current conflicts over territory. Because of its currency, authority, and thorough coverage, it is recommended for all libraries.—Michael L. Nelson, *Collection Development Librarian, University of Wyoming Libraries, Laramie, Wyoming*

The Sage Reference Series on Disability: Key Issues and Future Directions. Edited by Gary L. Albrecht. Los Angeles: Sage Reference, 2013. 8 vols. \$600 (ISBN: 978-14129-8015-9). E-book available, call for pricing.

Much attention is being focused on disability. It is central to the discussions of health care and social welfare policies taking place around the world. It is also of interest due to the "link between disability and poverty" (viii). This series recognizes that there is a wide range of disabilities that can be categorized in the areas of physical, mental, intellectual, and sensory disabilities. This series was not developed around specific disabilities, i.e., Parkinson's Disease, but rather on the

majority of topics that confront anyone interested in disability.

The Sage Reference Series on Disability: Key Issues and Future Directions consists of eight volumes. Each volume focuses on a key issue. The volumes are; Ethics, Law and Policy; Arts and Humanities; Employment and Work; Education; Disability Through the Life Course; Health and Medicine, Assistive Technology and Science; and Rehabilitation Interventions. Each volume is written by a different author from the various disciplines that contribute to this work. The authors are very thorough in explaining each issue with regards to disability. A nice feature of each volume is a chronology of critical events. This gives the reader a concise snapshot of the history of each particular key issue. Each volume is organized in a similar manner. Readers are given introduction and background information, current issues, critical events, data and statistics, as well as other important information.

The Sage Reference Series on Disability is written in a clear, concise manner. The format of this series makes the information very accessible. Another nice feature of this series is that each volume ends with selected print and electronic resources for further study. Each volume contains an extensive index.

This set is well suited for a wide audience. It targets undergraduate students as well as general readers using public libraries. However, "the content and depth of the series will also make it attractive to graduate students, researchers, and policy makers" (xi).

The Sage Reference Series on Disability is a unique source in that each volume focuses on one key issue. This made it difficult to find comparable sources. I did also look at Gary L. Albrecht's *Encyclopedia of Disability* (SAGE, 2006). This five-volume set uses an A-Z format and devotes one volume to primary source documents. While this source covers a wide range of topics and issues surrounding disability, it does not go into the levels of depth that is found in *The Sage Reference Series on Disability*.

The Sage Reference Series on Disability: Key Issues and Future Directions provides more than an encyclopedia entry for a wide range of key issues surrounding disability. I would recommend this series to both undergraduate and public libraries.—Mina Chercourt, *Unit Leader, Database Maintenance, Grasselli Library & Breen Learning Center, John Carroll University, University Heights, Ohio*