

and *Abroad, 1921 to the Present*. Each volume contains an era-specific introductory overview, an extensive bibliography of relevant literature, and a set of black-and-white maps. All volumes are well illustrated with duo-tone drawings, paintings, and photographs. Lending context as well as human interest are full-page biographical sketch boxes, which include birth and death dates, an illustration of the person in question, and the main facts of her or his claim to fame. Printed on the lower corners of each page is the year pertaining to those particular entries, which allows the user to fan the pages to quickly pinpoint a desired time period. Volume IV contains an index for the entire set.

Entries follow a year-month-day format. Appearing beneath each date is one to several subject headings in small caps, which helps the reader to zero in on specific topics across time. Typically, these amount to a single line of straight description, as, for example, "1776, August 2, POLITICS: The Declaration of Independence is finally signed by all 55 delegates to the Continental Congress" (394). However, it should be noted that significant occurrences do receive a modicum of analysis, as with the trial of John Peter Zenger, a New York publisher who had the temerity to print material critical of the state governor. Writes Fredriksen: "This is a precedent-setting event for freedom of the press, establishing that truth constitutes an absolute defense against libel. Henceforth, individuals are empowered with implicit ability to criticize the government" (212).

Although there are many similar titles vying for a slice of the collection development librarian's budget, many tend to be limited in coverage, either by geography (*Chronology of the American West: From 23,000 B.C.E. Through the Twentieth Century*, ABC-Clio, 2002) or scope (*American Decades*, 10 volumes by various authors, Gale, 1996–2000) or some other factor. *The Encyclopedia of American Facts and Dates* (10th ed., Harper Collins, 1997) was for many years considered a decent, inexpensive pick for the reference desk, but, sadly, this volume has been left to languish and is now out of date. All told, *Chronology of American History* is a solid buy and is highly recommended for all public and academic libraries.—*Michael F. Bemis, Assistant Librarian, Washington County Library, Woodbury, Minnesota*

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***Conflict Between India and Pakistan: An Encyclopedia.*** By Peter Lyon. *Roots of Modern Conflict*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, 2008. 389p. alkaline \$85 (ISBN 978-1-57607-712-2).

Covering the relations between India and Pakistan from independence in 1947 to the twenty-first century, this work objectively examines the bitter divisions between the two nations. Many tensions go back to 1947, when by partitioning the provinces of Punjab and Bengal and absorbing more than five hundred princely states, British India was succeeded by two independent countries, a primarily Hindu India and a Muslim Pakistan.

Entries in the encyclopedia range from one paragraph to two pages in length and cover important events, people, movements, treaties, political parties, and other topics. Treas-

ures include the Simla Agreement, Tashkent Conference, and Government of India Act. Biographies include Pakistani leaders such as Mohammed Ali Jinnah and Muhammad Khan Junejo; Indian leaders such as Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Jawaharlal Nehru; and Bangladeshi leaders such as Hossain Muhammad Ershad. Focusing on their connection to Indo-Pakistani relations, entries on British persons such as Harold Wilson and Mountbatten of Burma, American presidents Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, and George Walker Bush, as well as American Secretaries of State such as Henry Kissinger and John Foster Dulles, also are included. An entry for Lashkar-E-Taiba, the insurgent group often mentioned in relation to attacks in Mumbai, is included, as are Al-Qaeda and the Taliban. Other assorted entries include "Bengal," "caste," "Indo-Pakistan War of 1947–48," "nuclear weapons," "Sikhism," and "Ten Possible Options for Kashmir." Some entries include a photograph, a cross reference, or a bibliography. An epilogue discusses the current state of India–Pakistan relations, followed by an extensive chronology from 1947 through 2007. An appendix of presidents and prime ministers of each country, a brief glossary, a bibliography, and an index complete the work.

Readers who are not familiar with the history of India and Pakistan may want initially to consult *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan and the Maldives* (Cambridge Univ. Pr., 1989), as it details the history to independence of both countries and also includes more detailed maps of these areas. Some of the topics are covered more extensively in Surjit Mansingh's *Historical Dictionary of India* (Scarecrow, 2006) and Shahid Javed Burki's *Historical Dictionary of Pakistan* (Scarecrow, 1999). Although *Conflict Between India and Pakistan: An Encyclopedia* is not recommended as a starting point for information on the relations between India and Pakistan, it is the only encyclopedic source of its kind and is recommended for large public libraries and academic libraries.—*Eva Lautemann, Director of Learning Resources, Georgia Perimeter College, Clarkston, Georgia*

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***Cultural Encyclopedia of the Body.*** Ed. by Victoria Pitts-Taylor. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2008. 2 vols. alkaline \$175 (ISBN 978-0-313-34145-8).

What do *The Vagina Monologues*, Michael Jackson's face, and the cultural history of bodybuilding have in common? They are among the 110 signed articles in the *Cultural Encyclopedia of the Body*. International in scope and covering antiquity to the present, this two-volume work is organized alphabetically by body part from "Abdomen" to "Waist." The forty body parts include both external (skin, buttocks) and internal (heart, fat) components of the body. The shortest chapter, "Thigh," is a scant two pages in length and contains a single article on "Liposuction of the Thigh." The lengthiest chapter, "Skin," covers forty-four pages and contains nine signed articles. The majority of the forty contributors are doctoral students or professors.

A lengthy introduction is followed by a chronology spanning 24,000 BCE to 2008. Black-and-white photographs and

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illustrations are scattered throughout the text. From “Fat Activism” to “Menstruation Related Practices and Products,” and from “Chastity Belt” to “Cultural History of Semen,” the 110 individual articles are an interesting read accessible to high school students and above. The fourteen-page selected bibliography consists of books and journal articles spanning 1852 to 2008. A few key titles are absent, including Valerie Steele’s *The Corset: A Cultural History*. Further reading sections at the end of each signed article list books, articles, and websites.

Using the index to locate topics is essential, as scanning the article listings in the table of contents will not suffice to locate all of the disparate articles. For example, the subtopic “Cultural History of the Vagina” is subsumed under the chapter entitled “Uterus” rather than in the subsequent chapter, “Vagina.” There is no section in the chapter titled “Hands” that concerns fingernails.

This work is not meant to be a medical encyclopedia, and patrons looking for information on the medical risks and complications related to a particular procedure will find scant information on such issues. Perhaps owing to the long essay format of the *Cultural Encyclopedia of the Body*, there are no bolded cross-references and only occasional “see also” referrals at the end of articles.

A closely related reference work is the *Encyclopedia of Body Adornment* (Greenwood, 2007). Arranged alphabetically from “Acupuncture” to “Zulueta, Leo,” the 207 entries cover topics dealing with body modification as well as body adornment. Entries vary in length from one-third of a page for “Hand Piercing” to six pages for “Prison Tattooing,” with most entries between one and three pages in length. With bolded cross-references as well as “see also” references at the end of each entry, topics are easy to locate. There is considerable overlap between the *Cultural Encyclopedia of the Body* and the *Encyclopedia of Body Adornment* with respect to body modification and adornment, with the latter title the easier to use. Where the *Cultural Encyclopedia of the Body* presents new material, it largely concerns topics relating to internal body parts and to the reproductive system, such as “Cultural History of Childbirth” and “Cultural History of Blood.”

For those public and undergraduate libraries that do not have the *Encyclopedia of Body Adornment*, the *Cultural Encyclopedia of the Body* would flesh out a reference collection.—J. Christina Smith, *Anthropology and Sociology Bibliographer*, Boston University

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***Diseases and Disorders***. Ed. by Wendy Horobin. Tarrytown, New York: Marshall Cavendish, 2008. 3 vols. alkaline \$279.95 (ISBN 978-0-7614-7770-9).

*Diseases and Disorders* is a concise and nicely organized three-volume encyclopedia intended for young readers, although it certainly would also be suitable for adults. This publication starts from the premise that knowledge about diseases and disorders can promote good health, particularly among children, since many diseases are preventable and many disorders, especially mental health concerns, first manifest in childhood. This underlying theme—that increased

awareness of diseases and disorders may encourage healthier behaviors, risk-reduction strategies, and earlier diagnosis and treatment—finds its expression in an attractive, striking, and intentional work. A secondary goal of the set is to inspire young readers to study science, medicine, and public health and to pursue careers in health-related professions. The scope of *Diseases and Disorders* is international, and the overall impression is of great care being taken to make its organization, written content, illustrations, and overall style consistent with its themes and goals.

There are more than three hundred entries in *Diseases and Disorders* divided into four categories and designated by colors: overviews, infections, noninfectious diseases, and mental disorders. The color coding is an appealing way to organize the set and also results in a colorful presentation of the material. According to the foreword, entries were written and edited by experts. A substantial number of consultants and contributors from prestigious healthcare institutions assisted with the production of this set.

A typical entry for a disease features a short definition in a colored box, a summary box with key facts, and subsections for cause, risk factors, symptoms, diagnosis and treatment, and cross-references. The overview entries are longer and provide a wider perspective on major health issues, such as blindness and dental disorders. Overview articles also include cross-references to other entries. Entries include striking color photographs, carefully chosen for their impact. These photographs are complemented by colorful diagrams and graphics. The writing style is focused, practical, and concise, but without watering down or sugar-coating any of the information. Although some of the photographs and diagrams are disturbing, they present the real-world truth about what diseases and medical treatment really look like, which could be inspiring for students who may be thinking about health-care careers.

The first two volumes of *Diseases and Disorders* have their own indexes, glossaries, and lists of print publications and websites for nonprofit organizations and government agencies. The third volume has two comprehensive indexes, one in alphabetical order, the other by category; a complete glossary; and an overall list of resources, including information for health hotlines. There are tables of contents for each volume and one for the entire set. The foreword includes a summary of the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases and disorders along with a brief description of the scope and organization of the entries.

There are many sources for information on health and diseases; however, comprehensive publications intended for a juvenile audience are more limited in number. Some of the other choices include Brigham Narin’s *World of Health* (Gale, 2000), Bryan H. Bunch’s eight-volume *Diseases* (Grolier, 1997), the humorously titled, four-volume set *Sick! Diseases and Disorders, Injuries and Infections* by David E. Newton (U-X-L), two works by Neil Izenberg, *Human Diseases and Conditions* with supplements for behavioral health and infectious diseases (Scribner/Thomson/Gale, 2000–), and the recently published *Complete Human Diseases and Conditions* (Gale,