

were written by international experts from a variety of fields including management, psychology, communication, education, and political science.

According to Clegg and Bailey, organization studies is “the examination of how individuals construct organizational structures, processes, and practices and how these, in turn, shape social relations and create institutions that ultimately influence people” (xliii). Included in each volume is a “Reader’s Guide” that classifies the encyclopedia’s entries into twenty themes or topics, such as “Organizational Relations,” “Approaches to Management Theory,” and “Innovation and Creativity.” The encyclopedia also contains an alphabetical list of all entries and a fifty-plus-age index.

The entries are succinct and average 2 to 3 pages in length. The basic format of an entry consists of the “Conceptual Overview,” “Critical Commentary,” “Future Directions,” and “Further Readings.” In compiling the entries for the encyclopedia, the authors referred to the indexes of two prior reference books by Stuart Clegg: *Handbook of Organization Studies* (Sage, 1996) and *Managing and Organizations* (Sage, 2005) and created a list of topics that was further enhanced by the international contributors.

This encyclopedia covers such diverse topics as “Post-colonial Theory,” “Magic in Organizing,” and the “Free-Rider Problem” in organizational economics. As an example of topic development, in the entry for “McDonaldization,” George Ritzer (*The McDonaldization of Society*, Pine Forge Pr., 1993) presents a clear compendium describing the concept of McDonaldization and its influences on the global community. The entry concludes with a cross-reference pointing the user to entries for “Bureaucracy,” “Capitalism, Models of,” “Globalization,” and “Modernity.”

International Encyclopedia of Organization Studies surpasses comparable works such as the *Handbook of Organization Studies* (Sage, 1996) and *Managing and Organizations* (Sage, 2005) because of its wide and deep scope. *International Encyclopedia of Organization Studies* is an extremely thorough and lucid resource. However, libraries may benefit more from the electronic version of the encyclopedia because the theoretical nature of the content does not encourage browsing and discovery of ideas. Recommended for academic libraries with organizational studies programs.—Colleen Lougen, *Electronic Resources Librarian, State University of New York, New Paltz*

Life Events and Rites of Passage: The Customs and Symbols of Major Life-Cycle Milestones, Including Cultural, Secular, and Religious Traditions Observed in the United States. By Jeff Hill and Peggy Daniels. Detroit, Mich.: Omnigraphics, 2008. 520p. alkaline \$71 (ISBN 978-0-7808-0735-8).

Taking a broad approach to life’s rites of passage, this volume describes making the transitions from infancy to death and how the rituals are carried out in the United States at the beginning of the twenty-first century. Formal ceremonies, beliefs, or rituals, many based on specific religions or cultures, are covered in an easy-to-read and interesting format for an

intended audience of middle school and high school students. This book would also be an excellent starting place for college students researching customs and ceremonies or for anyone interested in life’s rites of passage.

The four sections—Birth and Childhood, Coming of Age, Adult Rites of Passage, and Death and Mourning—make it easy to find information on everything from naming a baby to quinceañera to Ramadan to crematoriums. American social customs are continually being shaped by a melting pot outlook that welcomes a variety of customs from regional sources (such as Native American, Mexican American, and Cajun) and from international cultures (such as Chinese and Japanese). The book supports this outlook by providing “see also” references for cross-cultural comparisons and related information. The bibliography offers a wealth of information, recommending websites, articles, and books for further inquiry into each rite or life event. This volume would be an excellent textbook for a class on cultural diversity because of its coverage of folk beliefs, ceremonies, rituals, and everyday beliefs.

Some of the information can be found in encyclopedias such as Len Travers’s *Encyclopedia of American Holidays and National Days* (Greenwood, 2006) or Frank A. Salamone’s *Encyclopedia of Religious Rites, Rituals, and Festivals* (Routledge, 2004), but this book brings together a potpourri of information into one source. This is not a comprehensive tome on the rites of passage in life, but it is a great place for students to begin to understand how we transition from one life stage to the next.—Diane J. Turner, *Senior Reference/Instruction Librarian, Auraria Library, Denver, Colorado*

Queer America: A GLBT History of the 20th Century. By Vicki L. Eaklor. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2008. 312p. alkaline \$65 (ISBN 978-0-313-33749-9).

Described in the introduction as “a ‘one stop’ handbook to U.S. GLBT history of the 20th century” (xii) Vicki Eaklor’s *Queer America* charts the evolution of GLBT identities, political struggles, and cultures. This comprehensive work draws from seminal writings of prominent historians such as John D’Emilio, Allan Berube, and Lillian Faderman. Although its narrative style and organization suggest a textbook rather than a traditional reference source, *Queer America* works well as both a broad-based history and a gateway to the key literature of the field. Eaklor, a professor of history at Alfred University and contributor to Gale’s indispensable *Encyclopedia of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History and Culture in America* (2004), organizes *Queer America* as a chronology of GLBT life during specific eras. These engaging chapters weave together primary writings and interviews with political events and social history. A detailed table of contents facilitates topical look-ups, although readers will likely want to read through whole chapters. A selective timeline of GLBT landmark events nicely contextualizes the contents within the larger picture of U.S. history. For example, the entry for the year 1955 includes both the founding of the

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early lesbian activist group Daughters of Bilitis in San Francisco and the arrest of Rosa Parks in Montgomery, Alabama. Suggested reading lists are incorporated at the end of each chapter, a critical feature in a work that seeks to condense so much historical scholarship into a small space. There is also a master bibliography, a short list of abbreviations, and a selective list of American films (not annotated). An interesting feature is the inclusion of debate topics—set off from the main text—that summarize key issues. The “Queers in Cold War America” chapter, for example, contains a debate about the validity and methods of the Kinsey studies. Photos and artwork are included throughout but unfortunately these are black and white and limited in number. The image-rich *Becoming Visible: An Illustrated History of Lesbian and Gay Life in America* by Molly McGarry and Fred Wasserman (Penguin Studio, 1998), would be an excellent companion to *Queer America*. The scope of coverage and narrative approach make *Queer America* a unique work that sits somewhere in between a reference source and a historical survey. There are many works that address specific movements, periods, and aspects of queer history, but few that cover the ground Eaklor does here. Among these are two nonreference titles, Barry Adam’s *The Rise of a Gay and Lesbian Movement* (Twayne, rev. ed., 1995) and Leila J. Rupp’s *A Desired Past: A Short History of Same-Sex Love in America* (Univ. of Chicago Pr., 1999). Chuck Stewart’s *Gay and Lesbian Issues: A Reference Handbook* (ABC-CLIO, 2003) includes brief essays, annotations, and source lists that address much of the content in *Queer America*. A true ready-reference source, Stewart’s work is easier to navigate. *Queer America* fills a gap in the literature by balancing components of all three works in a well-written and updated form. That said, given the currency of this work and its coverage of media-related topics, it’s surprising how little attention is paid to the emergence of the Web, which has reshaped queer experiences. *Queer America* is recommended for academic libraries and public libraries with well-developed GLBT reference holdings, as it’s probably put to better use in the circulating collection. *Queer America* is also available as an e-book.—Korey Brunetti, *Reference & Instruction Librarian, California State University East Bay, Hayward*

Rich and Poor in America: A Reference Handbook. By Geoffrey Gilbert. Contemporary World Issues. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, 2008. 275p. alkaline \$55 (ISBN 978-1-59884-056-8).

ABC-CLIO upholds the reputation of its Contemporary World Issues series with this latest addition. Taking a panoramic view of the evidence, causes, and effects of the broadening gap between America’s rich and poor, the volume will serve as an excellent jumping-off point for students writing about wealth disparity from virtually any angle. This has also been a popular topic for social issues point-counterpoint series such as *Opposing Viewpoints* (Greenhaven, 1970–present) and *At Issue* (Greenhaven, 1976–present).

Those familiar with the Contemporary World Issues series will recognize the book’s organization: Several content

chapters; a chronology with detailed descriptions of cited events; short biographies; miscellaneous data and documents; a directory of organizations; and an annotated section of additional print and media resources. Race, health, education, immigration, technological change, unionization, and taxation are each presented as mediating factors affecting the distribution of American wealth.

Gilbert has authored two other books in this series, on world population and world poverty. He clearly wants to develop a relationship with his reader around this newest topic, wealth disparity. His intimate writing style periodically challenges the reader directly to consider his points. Measured compassion describes the tone. Gilbert’s deftness in moving from one concept to the next will leave the reader with many thought-provoking questions about poverty—and this is a good thing.

Each chapters’ topics are discussed in one-and-a-half to three page sections that are separately headed, making the topics covered immediately obvious when leafing through the chapters. Gilbert rightfully highlights taxation as a major pivot point of the national poverty discussion, and his thoughts on this intimidating topic are very readable. There is also a chapter addressing poverty from a global perspective, adding context to the discussion. One could proceed to Mehmet Odekon’s 3-volume *Encyclopedia of World Poverty* (Sage, 2006) to explore this further. The twenty-seven biographies presented are a socioeconomic smorgasbord, ranging from Horatio Alger Jr. to former Vice Presidential candidate John Edwards. The variety of the “Data and Documents” section is impressive (included are census and survey data, the text of a speech by Federal Reserve Chair Ben Bernanke, an essay by Andrew Carnegie, two opposing editorials on CEO pay, and the powerful poem “Being Poor,” widely circulated after Hurricane Katrina).

For more numbers, *American Incomes: Demographics of Who Has Money* (New Strategist Publications, 2007) is an excellent source of detailed statistical information on income, wealth, and poverty. *Rich and Poor in America* is unique in its presentation of the lifestyles of both the poor and the rich, as many other sources focus on one or the other. With regard to breadth of formats presented, its information is beyond comparison. Recommended for academic and large public libraries.—Eric Petersen, *Reference/Public Services Librarian, Dana College, Blair, Nebraska*

Rock Band Name Origins: The Stories of 240 Groups and Performers. By Greg Metzger. Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland, 2008. paper 256p. alkaline \$45 (ISBN 978-0-7864-3818-1).

In *Rock Band Name Origins*, Greg Metzger has compiled an entertaining reference book detailing the history of the naming of 240 popular rock and pop artists from the 1960s to the present. Although most entries focus on groups, *Rock Band Name Origins* does include entries for selected individual artists. Each entry includes the original lineup, date the band was formed, or individual artist born, any later members of note, best known