

immediate victim. Teachers quit, students don't show up, classrooms are disrupted, activities are reduced and cut, and the school's reputation suffers. More frightening is the frequency of homicide, serious assaults, and sexual assault. An unhappy daily routine at many schools is students' having to deal with lockdown, security checks, metal detectors, and guards and police officers. School violence and crime, moreover, is a global phenomenon that affects many different schools at every socioeconomic level.

A welcome addition to the literature, therefore, is this unique and comprehensive two-volume offering from reference leader ABC-CLIO. Edited by Laura L. Finley, an Assistant Professor of Sociology and Criminology at Barry University in Miami Shores, Florida, the encyclopedia is a convenient one-stop reference for criminal justice, sociology, education, and law enforcement students. It will undoubtedly serve as a timely and important source for researchers; for school administrators, school board members, teachers and parents; for law-enforcement and public-service officials; and for concerned general readers.

Organized alphabetically, the encyclopedia covers a wide variety of issues including specific incidents, theories, preventive measures, important agencies, international cases, and significant people in eighty entries written by an impressive list of contributing scholars and subject-specialists. Articles are informative and engaging and end with bibliographies for further reading. The encyclopedia provides high-quality photographs that accompany the text and a number of user-friendly features including an alphabetical list of entries; appendices featuring discussion questions, primary source documents, and Supreme Court decisions; a comprehensive bibliography including films; and a good general index with cross references. Produced on high-quality acid free paper and sturdily bound, the encyclopedia should hold up for many years. It should be noted, in addition, that the encyclopedia is available from ABC-CLIO in an electronic version.

Finley's work is unrivaled in its scope and depth as a reference encyclopedia. Nonetheless, a number of current sources will serve as valuable companion volumes for any collection serving interested readers. William L. Turk's *School Crime and Policing* (Prentice Hall, 2003) is a hands-on treatment of school violence as it relates to the broader subject of juvenile crime. It is written from a criminal justice perspective and offers a number of preventive strategies and guidelines for handling criminal situations, suggestions for providing a safe school environment, and details of the school crime phenomenon. *Violence in America's Schools: Understanding, Prevention, and Responses* (R&L Education, 2009) by psychologist Murray R. Thomas, seeks to understand the foundations of school violence and offers methods for coping with a variety of violence issues. Twemlow and Sacco's *Preventing Bullying and School Violence* (American Psychiatric Publishers, 2011) is a new examination of school violence from a psychological perspective. The book is written by two prominent psychiatrists specializing in bully prevention and research. The book offers a number of pragmatic solutions including an

understanding of the bullying process, the role of community, identifying at-risk children, therapeutic mentoring, the concept of wellness, and other intervention strategies. There are, in addition, a number of practical guidebooks like this that are specific to bullying and harassment.

Finley's work, however, stands alone, and as such, is highly recommended for all academic, public, and school libraries.—*Vincent P. Tinerella, Library Director, University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton*

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***Encyclopedia of the Black Death.*** By Joseph P. Byrne. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, 2012. 429 pages. Acid free \$89 (ISBN 978-1-59884253-1). Ebook available (978-1-59884-254-8), call for pricing.

For more than 1400 years, outbreaks and epidemics of plague caused by the bacterium *Yersinia pestis* and carried by flea-infested rats swept the western world via its trade routes, decimating populations and transforming all areas of society and culture. *Encyclopedia of the Black Death* is the first reference work to provide thorough A-to-Z coverage of the medieval world's most devastating cycle of plague, the Second Pandemic, which began with Europe's Black Death of 1347-1352, and continued to make the rounds in Europe and the Ottoman world until about 1840.

The encyclopedia is composed of some 300 entries, which trace an interdisciplinary path through the devastation of the Black Death and its impact on global history, scientific understanding, politics, religion, and literature. Byrne's coverage of the period is wide-ranging and eclectic, embracing key outbreaks in cities like Marseilles and Florence, medieval hygiene and medical practices, contemporary religious explanations in the Islamic world, alarming cultural responses such as flagellation and dancing mania, as well as the impact of plague on the grave digging profession. What emerges is a remarkably accessible and compulsively readable distillation of a complex subject. Byrne has a knack for turning up the odd piece of trivia that perfectly punctuates his brief essays. Did you know, for instance, that the diarist Samuel Pepys bought a wig made from human hair as the plague swept through London in the 1660s, but, thankfully, thought twice about actually wearing it? (83)

Entries range in length from one to three two-column pages, and are supplemented by brief bibliographies and a strong selection of "see also" cross-references. The work also includes illustrations, a glossary, a 30-page bibliography, and a timeline of the world's three major plague pandemics. One of the true strengths of the work is its "List of Entries by Broad Topic" which immediately precedes the alphabetical entries and does a fine job of complementing the index. Here Byrne arranges his entries according to ten major subjects, including "Art and Literature," "Coping Methods," "Groups," "Medieval and Early Modern Medicine," and "Religion," which collectively add a much-needed framework to the entire work. The overall approach is ideal for an audience of high school and college students, since it invites browsing

## SOURCES

and rewards students who follow a particular path through the encyclopedia with many opportunities to focus their research.

Other encyclopedias, such as editor George C. Kohn's *Encyclopedia of Plague and Pestilence* (Facts on File, 2007) and Joseph P. Byrne's own recent *Encyclopedia of Pestilence, Pandemics and Plagues* (Greenwood, 2008) treat the plague epidemics from a much broader perspective, devoting a handful of isolated entries to the subject within the overall history of global epidemics.

Several other reference works focus on the Black Death and its impact on the medieval world, but are either anthologies of primary documents, such as John Aberth's *The Black Death: The Great Mortality of 1348–1350: A Brief History with Documents* (Bedford/St. Martin's, 2005) or multidisciplinary collections of essays, such as editor Jordan McMullin's *The Black Death* (Greenhaven, 2003). Author Byrne has himself produced several previous works on the subject, including a monograph, *The Black Death* (Greenwood, 2004), and a twelve chapter reference work, *Daily Life During the Black Death* (Greenwood, 2006), which views the plague through the lens of various medieval settings such as medical schools, pest houses, and the streets of Europe.

*Encyclopedia of the Black Death* is currently the only encyclopedia of its kind. It is accessible and engaging, and serves as a fine entry point into a rich body of primary works and secondary scholarship. This work is recommended primarily for high school and undergraduate reference collections.—David W. Wilson, *Reference Librarian, Austin Community College, Austin, Texas*

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***Ethnic Groups of Europe: An Encyclopedia.*** Ed. by Jeffrey E. Cole. *Ethnic Groups of the World*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, 2011. 442 pages. Acid free \$85 (ISBN 978-1-59884-302-6). Ebook available (978-1-59884-303-3), call for pricing.

The first volume of ABC-CLIO's five-volume series on the world's ethnic groups, *Ethnic Groups of Europe: An Encyclopedia* contains descriptions of 104 ethnic and national groups in Europe. Adopting an inclusive definition of ethnic group, this work includes indigenous peoples without states (Saami), dispersed minorities (Roma), distinctive regional populations (Bretons), and nationalities (Danes). Excluded are populations not considered ethnically (San Marini) or linguistically (Bavarians) distinct.

To be included in this work, according to the "Methodology" section, ethnic groups have to have both a historic homeland and a continued presence in Europe, and have a minimum population of 20,000. This latter criterion allows for adherence to publisher guidelines for approximately one hundred entries.

The twelve-page "Introduction" discusses ethnicity, nationalities, and nation-states in the context of Europe, and reviews historic and current trends, including the immigration of non-European populations.

Arranged alphabetically from "Abazin" to "Welsh," the signed entries range from a single page for "Manx" to eight pages for "Russians," with an average of four to five pages. Entries contain "a capsule summary of a group followed by an account of origins and early history, cultural life, and recent developments" (vii). The individual essays are interesting and accessible to the general reader. One learns of the "hard bread" and "soft bread" cultural boundary in Finland and of the nearly 150 liters of alcoholic beverages consumed yearly by the average German. For readers not accustomed to thinking of Georgia and portions of the Russian Caucasus as Europe, this volume will be a useful primer on groups such as the Abkhaz and Ossetians, whose political struggles continue.

Entries conclude with a list of one or more sources for further reading, primarily in English; however, four works listed in the eight-item bibliography for "Slovenians" are in Slovenian. Given that the series is geared to "a general readership in terms of language and presentation" (x), the inclusion of suggested readings in Croatian, Slovenian, and Turkish seems to be a contradiction.

Additional information can be found in sidebars, which are also signed. While primarily on ethnic groups such as "Irish Tinkers/Travelers" and "Turks in Central and Western Europe," sidebars also address topics as varied as "Srebrenica" and the "European Union Policy on Minorities."

The occasional stock photo depicts, for example, Cossacks on horseback and a Swedish girl celebrating St. Lucia Day, as well as, inexplicably, Ashkenazim in Jerusalem. A better use of illustrations would have been the inclusion of maps, especially for Russia and Georgia, where the reader may be unfamiliar with the Abazin, Abkhaz, Adyghs, Ajarians, and Avars.

This work concludes with a contributor list of eighty-nine international scholars, a geographical index, and an adequate but no-frills general index with few "See also" references.

There is overlap with Carl Waldman and Catherine Mason's two-volume *Encyclopedia of European Peoples* (Facts on File, 2006), which contains more than 600 entries (one paragraph to several pages in length) covering European peoples from ancient times (Vikings) to the present (Norwegians: nationality). Useful features of the Waldman and Mason work include timelines, maps, a list of alternative names, and language tables; none of which appear in the Cole volume. For extensive essays on Rus and Slavs as well as contemporary ethnic groups, Waldman and Mason would be the logical choice. For more up-to-date coverage of ethnic groups continuously occupying Europe, Cole would be the more useful. Unlike *Ethnic Groups of Europe: An Encyclopedia*, the *Encyclopedia of European Peoples* excludes Georgia, suggesting that the two works define Europe differently.

*Ethnic Groups of Europe: An Encyclopedia* is recommended for public and academic libraries, especially those that lack *Encyclopedia of European Peoples*.—J. Christina Smith, *Anthropology/Sociology Bibliographer, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts*