

SOURCES

ESAPTR might prove a useful clinical reference for experienced providers looking to refresh their topical knowledge and refer their clients to treatment, but its unevenness renders it a less well-rounded and substantive than the updated *Encyclopedia of Drugs, Alcohol and Addictive Behavior*, which remains a better choice for academic and public libraries. *ESAPTR* is also available as an ebook.—Korey Brunetti, *Reference and Instruction Librarian, California State University, East Bay*

The Encyclopedia of Strikes in American History. Ed. by Aaron Brenner, Benjamin Day, and Immanuel Ness. Armonk, N.Y.: M.E. Sharpe, 2009. 800p. Alkaline \$175 (ISBN 978-0-7656-1330-1).

This single-volume encyclopedia takes a comparative approach to the complicated history of strikes in America. Rather than examining each of the hundreds of thousands of individual strikes in our nation's history, the editors have opted to explore larger questions about the effect and meaning of strikes across time, regions, and industries.

In place of the traditional alphabetic arrangement, the essays are organized into five thematic sections. The first section, "Strikes: Theory and Practice," provides the general context, exploring the often contested ways strikes have been understood throughout U.S. history. The diversity of the labor movement, including issues of race, gender, and religion is explored in section 2, "Strikes and Working Class Culture." The third section, "Strike Waves," looks at the rise and fall of strikes as a negotiating tactic during different historical eras. The final two sections, making up roughly two-thirds of the volume, address strikes within particular industries and economic sectors. These essays cover industries with well-known histories of labor strife, such as agriculture and mining, as well as strikes in more eclectic fields ranging from waitress strikes to musician strikes.

Although many industries are covered, the thematic approach results in omissions, often by design. There is no biographical section. Prominent figures appear only within topical essays. Cesar Chavez is discussed in the context of agricultural strikes, while Jimmy Hoffa is briefly mentioned in the essay on Teamster strikes. Similarly, there is no section devoted to discussing individual strikes, so iconic struggles such as the violent lockout and strike at Homestead, Pennsylvania, are discussed only within relevant thematic essays. This helps establish the strikes within a broader context, but patrons seeking basic background information on specific strikes or individuals will be best directed to existing reference works, such as *The Encyclopedia of U.S. Labor and Working Class History* (Routledge, 2007), *Historical Encyclopedia of American Labor* (Greenwood, 2004), and *Labor Conflict in the United States: An Encyclopedia* (Garland, 1990). The work under review complements these sources. It is not a ready-reference work filled with facts and dates. Instead, the substantial scholarly essays give students an appreciation for the complexity of American labor history. This approach is especially valuable in our age of instant information, where anyone with a computer can readily access details of the Homestead strike. What

is rarer, and often harder to find, is the informed analysis and context provided in this collection of essays. While not light reading, the essays are accessible to college students who will be rewarded for their effort. Highly recommended for libraries with research interests in labor, economic, or working-class history.—Eric Novotny, *Humanities Librarian, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park*

Encyclopedia of Survey Research Methods. Ed. by Paul J. Lavrakas. Los Angeles: Sage, 2008. 2 vols. Acid free. \$350 (ISBN 978-1-4129-1808-4).

There is no doubt that a plethora of literature devoted to surveys and survey methods exists, especially in the social sciences. A researcher could rummage through myriad books, book chapters, and journal articles, uncovering rich information about particular survey methods used at one time or another to ensure reliable data. Yet no reference work existed dedicated to pulling all of the survey methods together in one place. The editor of this two-volume set, an accomplished research psychologist, set out to accomplish that goal with the *Encyclopedia of Survey Research Methods*. With 640 entries from 320 contributors, Lavrakas hoped to compile a "comprehensive, yet not exhaustive" look at survey research and methods (xxxv).

Encyclopedia of Survey Research Methods contains the same nuts and bolts that one expects from a high-quality reference book: a thorough index, cross-references entries, and alphabetical list of entries and signed articles. It seems that most entries also contain lists of further readings following the entry. One of the nicer qualities in this work is the inclusion of a reader's guide found in both volumes, which organizes the articles into nine broad categories: "Ethical Issues in Survey Research," "Measurement," "Nonresponse," "Operations," "Political and Election Polling," "Public Opinion," "Sampling, Coverage, and Weighting," "Survey Industry," and "Survey Statistics." Without these larger categories, a reader might be lost using this rich set without a very specific question in mind. However, within these categories, readers are very likely to locate information that they might not have considered previously. One obvious place where the latter may occur is the entries located under the "Political and Election Polling" category.

Clearly, the strength of this work is that none other like it exists. For the social sciences, there is *The Sage Encyclopedia of Social Science Research Methods* (2007). The editors of this work tout the uniqueness of their volumes, and this set includes much more information than surveys as a tool for social science research. A cursory comparison of the two reveals that the title under review here may be more student-friendly and easier to navigate for the survey novice.

Encyclopedia of Survey Research Methods will be most valuable in academic libraries with students in research design or social science courses employing survey research data and analysis. Its contents are most likely a little out of reach for school libraries, but public libraries should consider it if they serve populations where studying survey methods is of