

SOURCES

of *Race, Ethnicity, and Society* (Sage, 2008), edited by Richard T. Schaefer, are two of the most popular. In truth, there is little significant difference between the slightly older set and the new Greenwood edition other than the obvious fact that the newer is more up-to-date. Many of the same topics are covered in both sets, and the differences are minor—Moore has entries on Boxing and Buffalo Soldiers, Schaefer on the Amish and Glass Ceiling, while Gallagher and Lippard cover al-Qaeda and Amos 'n' Andy. A similar point could be made about the primary sources in each resource. Yet with the variety of subject matter, these sets could be seen to complement each other as much as compete with each other.

It is difficult for any one resource on such a nebulous topic to be truly definitive, but this set does an excellent job exploring multifarious aspects of racism and its permutations. It certainly provides some valuable background information and serves as a solid starting point for further research. The diversity of subject matter emphasizes the prominent place race still has in American society, even if it seems to be a more subtle presence than in the past. Well-suited for academic and high school libraries.—*Mike Tosko, Associate Professor, Research and Learning Services, The University of Akron, Akron, Ohio*

The SAGE Encyclopedia of Action Research. Ed. by David Coghlan and Mary Brydon-Miller. Los Angeles: Sage Reference, 2014. 2 vols. \$315 (ISBN 978-1-84920-027-1).

“Action research” has always been one of those broadly defined terms I would come across when perusing a more general research methods encyclopedia or textbook, until now. *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Action Research* devotes eight hundred plus pages to exploring all aspects of this topic, from methods and methodologies to theory, settings, and philosophical underpinnings—even spirituality! The definition provided in the introduction is all-encompassing, noting the “global family of related approaches”; however, the breadth

and diversity of contents within these volumes evinces the myriad layers of how, where, when, and why action research is used (xxv).

Entries, listed alphabetically (not clustered by theme, etc., except in the Reader's Guide), vary in length, most of which span several pages and contain enough substance to be broken down into four to five (or more) sections. Where appropriate, tables and other figures or charts are included to supplement the text. Front matter is brief, and there are no appendices. Many of the entries would, at first glance, appear to be generic and not necessarily unique to action research (for example, “Authenticity,” “Conflict Management,” “Data Analysis,” “Quantitative Methods,” etc.) but, as would be expected of any decent, specialized reference source, the editors have done their due diligence to ensure all contributions have been contextualized in a manner appropriate to the book's focus. All entries end with further readings, some of which are quite thorough.

To my knowledge, there are no reference sources comparable to this title. Libraries thinking of acquiring this set may also want to consider having *The Action Research Planner: Doing Critical Participatory Action Research* (Springer, 2014) or *The SAGE Handbook of Action Research: Participative Inquiry and Practice* (SAGE, 2008, 2013) on-hand as companions for anyone looking to put action research into practice. This title would be appropriate for academic libraries of all types, as well as public libraries. Unless specifically requested by a faculty member, however, I would not go out of my way to acquire an entire encyclopedia dedicated to action research for the reference collection at the small liberal arts college library at which I work—I just don't think it would see much “action” here (pun intended). I will, however, proceed to add my reviewer's copy and see what happens!—*Todd J. Wiebe, Head of Research and Instruction, Van Wylen Library, Hope College, Holland, Michigan*