

People of Color in the United States: Contemporary Issues in Education, Work, Communities, Health, and Immigration. Edited by Kofi Lomotey, Pamela Braboy Jackson, Muna Adem, Paulina X. Ruf, Valire Carr Copeland, Alvaro Huerta, Norma Iglesias-Prieto, and Donathan L. Brown. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2016. 4 vols. Acid free \$319.20 (ISBN 978-1-6106-9854-2). E-book available (978-1-6106-9855-9), call for pricing.

People of Color in the United States: Contemporary Issues in Education, Work, Communities, Health, and Immigration is composed of four separately titled and individually edited volumes that follow a common organizing pattern for sale as a set: *Education: K–12 and Higher Education* (volume 1), *Employment, Housing, Family, and Community* (volume 2), *Health and Wellness* (volume 3), and *Immigration and Migration* (volume 4). Each volume opens with a listing of its contents. These consist of a “Guide to Related Topics,” a “Preface,” an “Introduction,” “Essays” listed by title in alphabetical order, “Perspectives and Debate” (many of which pose a question that offers a pro and con response), “Recommended Resources,” “About the Editors and Contributors,” and a comprehensive “Index” to all four volumes.

The number of essays in each volume varies (47 in volume 1, 60 in volume 2, 56 in volume 3, 50 in volume 4) but each follows a uniform format. Essay titles are highlighted in bold face with sections and subsections set apart for easy identification. Each essay offers a “Conclusion” and a listing of “Further Readings.” The latter includes recently published books, journal articles, dissertations, and web sites with date of access noted. Many essays are illustrated with black and white photographs or contain sidebars, tables, or charts with additional information. See also references to additional related topics are included and each article is signed by its author, either an academic or a graduate student, whose credentials are listed at the back of the volume in which it appears.

Articles focus on contemporary issues that affect people of color disproportionately, such as “Culturally Relevant Education” (1:68–74), “Social Media Activism against Racial Inequality” (2:305–12), “Health across Diverse Communities of Color” (3:149–59), and “Pathways to Citizenship” (4:259–7). Some topics, food deserts for example, are written about in more than one volume (“Food Deserts in Communities,” 2:139–43; “Food Deserts and Health,” 3:135–39). What time frame constitutes “contemporary” is not precisely stated, but articles appear largely to consider currency to date from the mid-1960s onward. Historical information is limited to amplifying, clarifying, or contextualizing a contemporary issue (“Guest Worker Programs,” 4:156–61; “Resegregation of Schools,” 1:301–7).

Nor does *People of Color in the United States* offer a clear unifying statement tying the set together as to who qualifies for inclusion as a person of color. Some essays explore the intersection between race and ethnicity (“Same-Sex Marriage and Race and Ethnicity,” 2:291–99). Others focus entirely on ethnicity (“The Latino Health Paradox: Examining the

Mexican American Experience,” 3:202–9). Biracial and multi-racial identity are addressed (“Multiracial Americans: Categories and Perceptions,” 2:234–38; “Multiracial Identity in the United States Today,” 2:238–44). Pigmentation may also be a consideration (“Colorism,” 2:70–75; “Brazilians in the United States,” 4:49, 52–53). Arabs, classified as white by the 1997 Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) revisions on race and ethnicity (https://nces.ed.gov/programs/handbook/data/pdf/Appendix_A.pdf), are included in one article (“Parent and Family Engagement in Education: Arab American Families,” 1:233–34), but Arab American is not an indexed term.

What emerges is that most of the contemporary issues articles in these volumes address their impact on African American, Latino/a and Hispanic, and Native American communities. Inclusion of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders is highly selective. Populations from the Indian subcontinent are not included at all. Readers looking for basic information about these and other populations that fall outside the OMB’s definition of white will need to turn to the four-volume *Multicultural America: An Encyclopedia of the Newest Americans*, edited by Ronald H. Bayor and also published by Greenwood in 2011, or to the third edition of *The Gale Encyclopedia of Multicultural America*, edited by Thomas Riggs (Gale, Cengage Learning, 2014; Credo Reference, 2016). The former profiles populations arriving in the United States since passage of the 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act, many of whom fall into OMB’s non-white groups; the latter emphasizes culture, customs, language, religion, historical background, settlement in the United States, and assimilation of immigrant and Native American tribal groups without regard to OMB classification. Unlike *People of Color in the United States*, neither of the aforementioned multicultural encyclopedias approaches their subjects through the lens of a specific issue or issues affecting one or multiple populations, opting instead for the traditional A–Z alphabetical-by-name organization pattern.

While one may quibble about a certain lack of clarity in defining what groups are considered to be persons of color, it is clear that *People of Color in the United States* provides a unique approach that shines a spotlight on contemporary issues affecting populations arguably among the most marginalized in the United States. Interest in the issues and populations addressed in the set’s four volumes may be expected to grow; a second edition may soon be necessary. *People of Color in the United States* is recommended for high school, public, and academic library readership.—Sally Moffitt, *Reference Librarian and Bibliographer, Langsam Library, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio*

Same-Sex Marriage: A Reference Handbook, 2nd ed. By David E. Newton. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2016. 336 p. Acid free \$60 (ISBN 978-1-4408-5049-1). E-book available (978-1-4408-5050-9), call for pricing.

This second edition of David E. Newton’s handbook on same-sex marriage provides a useful introduction to the topic, including chronologies, statistics, legal documents,

and biographical profiles of key players and organizations. When compared with the 2010 edition, it provides a much-needed update on an issue that has seen considerable political and social changes in recent years. While it could prove quite useful to general, high school, and early undergraduate audiences, more advanced researchers may find it to be too broad an overview.

The second edition of Newton's text has a slightly expanded and more organized global focus than the first, including data and statistics about same-sex marriage rates and public opinion about same-sex marriage from around the world. It also includes extensive coverage of *Obergefell v. Hodges*, the June 2015 Supreme Court decision legalizing same-sex marriage at the federal level. One unexpected change is the addition of a "Perspectives" section, which includes essays by activists and academics that speak to different aspects of the marriage issue. This section explores questions such as "Does gay marriage truly protect children?" and "What role does marriage play, if any, in the larger fight against oppression of LGBTQ people?" These may be useful vignettes for students looking to develop their own arguments around an aspect of same-sex marriage.

Some of the most comparable books to this one are topical monographs, which may be somewhat narrower in geographical or narrative focus but provide a similar level of detail and extensive bibliography. Pierceson's *Same-Sex Marriage in the United States: The Road to the Supreme Court* (Rowan & Littlefield 2013) is one fine example, though limited in coverage to the United States.

When compared with other reference sources, Chuck Stewart's *Proud Heritage: People, Issues, and Documents of the LGBT Experience* (ABC-CLIO 2014) provides more granular coverage of marriage laws and events at the state level, complete with primary documents, but is focused primarily on the United States. The *Greenwood Encyclopedia of LGBT Issues Worldwide* (2010) provides some coverage of marriage issues globally but lacks the data and documents found in Newton's volume. Raymond A. Smith's *The Politics of Sexuality: A Documentary and Reference Guide* (Greenwood 2010), which is not limited to same-sex couples, does a better job than Newton's handbook at contextualizing issues around same-sex partnership and legal recognition within the broader context of struggles for marriage equality, including interracial marriage. Joanne Myers's *Historical Dictionary of the Lesbian and Gay Liberation Movements* (Scarecrow 2013) provides just three pages of concise history of gay marriage in the dictionary itself and little overlapping coverage in its introduction.

The question that remains with topical handbooks such as this one is whether collocating biographies, chronologies, resources, and statistics on a single issue is as useful to researchers as consulting several well-researched monographs. For the reader who is entirely new to the topic, there is still value here, but others may be unlikely to consult such a source or find value in it should they do so. My only other complaint is that both the first and second editions of this

book feature exclusively male couples on the cover art. There are so many beautiful portraits of LGBTQ people across the spectrum of gender identity marrying or fighting for marriage equality. It would be nice to see greater diversity there.—*Madeline Veitch, Research, Metadata, and Zine Librarian, State University of New York at New Paltz*

Talking Conflict: The Loaded Language of Genocide, Political Violence, Terrorism, and Warfare. By Anna M. Wittman. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2016. 386 p. Acid free \$89 (ISBN 978-1-4408-3424-0). E-book available (978-1-4408-3425-7), call for pricing.

The language used to describe conflict situations, whether military, political, or personal, has the potential to help resolve or escalate. Terms such as "collateral damage," "ethnic cleansing," and "final solution" often refer to historical events, but can also be used to condemn or endorse particular points of view in political speeches, the media, and local debate. Euphemisms, oxymorons, propaganda, jargon: all come into play. The nuanced and powerful rhetoric of conflict is the topic of *Talking Conflict*, an interesting and wide-ranging encyclopedia discussing the impact of linguistics, political science, journalism, and other fields on the language of conflict.

Focusing on the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, this work's entries range from brief definitions to in-depth essays, depending on the topic. For example, the entry on "Freedom Fries, Liberty Cabbage, and Hot Dogs" is an interesting account of how American anti-German and anti-French sentiment during World War I prompted the renaming of popular foods (French fries, sauerkraut, and frankfurters). The entry on the Cold War, in contrast, discusses the post-World War II conflict between the Soviet Union and the United States in terms of not only historical events, but also the origin of the term in earlier history and literature. A further section on the Cold War's context in the arts and athletics reveals how the term has developed a life of its own far beyond its original meaning.

A list of alphabetical entries, thorough index listing main entries and brief mentions, and plentiful "see" and "see also" references help the reader navigate through often overlapping concepts and events. Each entry ends with useful suggestions for further reading, including encyclopedias, books, websites, and journal articles. The book's content, however, could perhaps have been usefully supplemented with illustrative material such as linguistic and historic timelines, maps of world conflicts, and photographs or other illustrations depicting specific historical events.

While perhaps not aimed at advanced researchers, the book's format, organization, and clear writing make it a useful addition for high school and undergraduate library collections. *Talking Conflict* is a fascinating, useful, and highly relevant resource that can be used profitably in introductory historical, linguistic, and general research projects and assignments.—*Jennifer A. Bartlett, Interim Associate Dean of*