

## SOURCES

This should be a standard for collections focused on education and educational theories. It may appeal to educators, architects, designers, and those with an interest in understanding how the spaces and objects we use came to be. This title would work well as a resource for courses that focus on American educational history and reform.—*Kelsey Forester, Science Research & Instruction Librarian, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia*

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***When Science and Politics Collide: The Public Interest at Risk.*** By Robert O. Schneider. Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger, 2018. 228 p. Acid-free \$60 (ISBN 978-1-4408-5937-3). E-book Available (978-1-4408-5938-0), call for pricing.

The importance and topicality of *When Science and Politics Collide: The Public Interest at Risk* can hardly be doubted. Author Robert O. Schneider, of the University of North Carolina Pembroke, has a respectable publication history on issues that demonstrate the collision of science and politics: fracking, oil disaster prevention, and emergency management, among others. He provides cogent discussions in areas where clarity and understanding are essential, such as the distinction between science and politics and how they interact in the development of policy.

Like many books lacking the characteristics of a reference work described in Bates's *Information Searching Theory and Practice* (Ketchikan Press, 2016, 325–327), this work could be used for reference. However, the structure and features of this work are not strong for that use. It is a better fit for Bates's "body of discourse" (322) with the entire book, rather than an entry, being the information "individual." As a result of this format, the scope is relatively narrow, but it has depth greater than much reference material. Indexing assists reference use where a discernible organizational ordering principle is absent, but it is not especially strong here. A full chapter is devoted to hydraulic fracturing, but terms like "natural gas" are completely absent from the index, for example. In addition, the entries under "hydraulic fracturing" differ from those under "fracking." Generous notes are provided, though they are located at the back of the book instead of the end of each chapter, which might facilitate reference use. The author cites a wide variety of types of sources, which could be perceived as a strength or weakness.

For an actual reference work in this area, Steel's *Science and Politics: An A-Z Guide to Issues and Controversies* (CQ Press, 2014) may be better suited to the task. Alphabetically arranged brief entries, each with a named author, bibliography, and further reading, cover a greater number and range of topics. From the publisher, *Science and Politics* is substantially more expensive than *When Science and Politics Collide*, but if alternate vendors are an option, the price may be comparable. The review Steel's work received in *Choice* (May 2015, 1481) was "optional," it should be noted, and it could benefit from an update.

The strengths above and a generally interesting and accessible style make *When Science and Politics Collide* worthy

of consideration for undergraduate general collections. Barrotta and Scarafile's *Science and Democracy: Controversies and Conflicts* (John Benjamins, 2018) and *When Ideology Trumps Science* by Wolters and Steel (Praeger, 2018) are examples of current publications of similar structure and subject as Schneider's that might be considered as alternatives.—*Lisa Euster, Librarian, Washington State Department of Ecology, Lacey, Washington*

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***We Eat What? A Cultural Encyclopedia of Unusual Foods in the United States.*** Edited by Jonathan Deutsch. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2018. 339 p. Acid-fee. \$94.00 (ISBN 978-1-4408-4111-8). E-book Available (978-1-4408-4112-5), call for pricing.

Fried crickets. Boiled pig intestines. Sautéed bull testicles. And that's just the sampler plate. Bon appetite! All joking aside, these and other—ahem—interesting food items are discussed and illustrated within the pages of this well-written reference work. Approximately 114 alphabetically arranged entries, each signed by its writer, cover mostly regional specialties, from alligator meat served in Florida restaurants to Whoopie pie, a sweet treat made in bakeries throughout New England. The writing style is straightforward; at once entertaining and enlightening, articles variously provide background on the derivation of the names for individual items ("fastnacht" is German for "fast night," referring to a "slightly sweet fried dough, similar to a doughnut, that is prepared and eaten on Shrove Tuesday, particularly in the Pennsylvania German [also known as Pennsylvania Dutch] community" [118]), how a particular food item found its way to these shores, and a smattering of botanical/zooological background ("Huckleberry ice cream is a regional and seasonal specialty of the Western United States, mainly found in the Pacific northwest, Idaho, and Montana, where huckleberries are a native plant species" [176]).

In his preface, the editor states that the impetus for creating such a work was to provide a companion volume to his well-regarded prior title, *They Eat That? A Cultural Encyclopedia of Weird and Exotic Food from Around the World* (ABC-CLIO, 2012). Both volumes are designed to explore the dichotomy of foodstuffs: what some regard as wholesome and everyday comestibles, others consider to be revolting. Everything is relative, it would seem, including that which we ingest.

A number of features stand out. While not a cookbook, recipes for selected dishes are included. Sidebar articles provide cultural and historical context. All entries conclude with a further reading list, in addition to a more lengthy bibliography at the end of this work. Many articles are illustrated with crisp black-and-white photographs.

The editorial team consists of general editor Jonathan Deutsch, PhD, contributing editor Benjamin Fulton, and recipe editor Alexandra Zeitz. All three are affiliated with Drexel University, Philadelphia. Contributors all possess advanced degrees in various aspects of food science.

A literature search suggests that this title maintains a unique position in the reference literature regarding foodways of the United States. However, a complementary volume, which does have some overlap in coverage, is *The Oxford Companion to American Food and Drink*, edited by Andrew F. Smith (Oxford University Press, 2007).

Considering the emphasis on ethnicity/diversity/multiculturalism within American society of late, this title would be expected to generate interest among many readers, not just the “foodies” out there. For this reason, as well as its feature rich content, *We Eat What?* is strongly recommended for purchase by all public and academic libraries.—*Michael F. Bemis, Retired Reference Librarian and Independent Reference Book Reviewer, Oakdale, Minnesota*

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***Winning the War on Poverty: Applying the Lessons of History to the Present.*** By Brian L. Fife. Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger, 2018. 236 p. Acid-free \$60 (ISBN 978-1-4408-3281-9). E-book Available (978-1-4408-3282-6), call for pricing.

Fife is professor emeritus in the Department of Public Policy at Purdue University, Fort Wayne. He has written books and articles on many topics such as education reform and the electoral process.

There is no preface or introduction to the volume, so the user must make assumptions about what the author has set out to accomplish. By looking at the title of the book with the table of contents, the user can surmise the purpose of the book, but it would have been much more helpful to have an introduction by the author.

The volume starts with a table of contents that lists five chapters. The first chapter defines poverty, and while references are made to poverty in other countries, the focus is on the United States. Chapter one describes the standard measurement of poverty that has been used for over fifty years and the creation of that measurement by the economist Mollie Orshansky. Other poverty measurements are discussed as well as the criticism of the Orshansky model. The author ends the chapter by saying there should be room for more than one measurement tool.

Chapter two gives an overview of the poverty relief efforts in the United States, starting with the social welfare movement post War of 1812 to the passage of the Affordable Care Act under President Obama. Much of the chapter is devoted to the creation of programs under Franklin Roosevelt and Lyndon Johnson. The chapter ends with discussing the different viewpoints on poverty and how much help people should get from the government and how in the present-day Congress poverty relief efforts are not a high priority.

Chapter three discusses the history of income inequality in the United States with references to Thomas Jefferson, Mark Twain, and Robert Reich. The author paints a picture where the gap between rich and poor is worsening yet the country's leaders are not crafting policies that would address the problem. The chapter ends with a plea for the national leaders to create policies that serve the diverse nature of their constituents.

Chapter four discusses how the Republican party and the Democratic party differ in their viewpoints of poverty and how to best help or not help those in need. The chapter also profiles several economists and their philosophies on poverty, such as Friedrich Hayek, Leo Strauss, and Milton Friedman.

The last chapter is the author's eighteen-point plan for reforming welfare. The steps range from universal health care to enhancing educational opportunities to affordable housing for all and reforming the electoral college. The author goes into detail for each of his eighteen points and ends the chapter by acknowledging that poverty will always exist, but that as one of the wealthiest countries, the United States has an obligation to enact policies to help those people who live in poverty.

Each chapter ends with an extensive list of references, and there is a bibliography and index at the end of the whole volume. This title complements other books on this topic such as *Poverty in America: A Handbook* by John Iceland and *A People's History of Poverty in America* by Stephen Pimpare. Recommended for all libraries.—*Stacey Marien, Acquisitions Librarian, American University, Washington, DC*