

Encyclopedia of American Civil Rights and Liberties: Revised and Expanded Edition, 2nd ed. Edited by Kara E. Stooksbury, John M. Scheb II, and Otis H. Stephens, Jr. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2017. 4 vols. Acid-free \$348 (ISBN 978-1-4408-4109-5). E-book available (978-1-4408-4110-1), call for pricing.

Occupy Wall Street. Black Lives Matter. The #MeToo movement. Over the past decade, the United States has seen a surge in activism around civil rights, broadly defined as the right to be free from discrimination and unequal treatment in arenas such as housing, the workplace, and the criminal justice system. At times, as when activists are arrested at a protest, calls for *civil rights* can also be the occasion for violations of *civil liberties*—certain basic freedoms (e.g., freedom of speech) that are either enshrined in the Constitution or established through legal rulings. While civil rights are distinct from civil liberties, students often struggle to articulate these differences and appreciate the links between the two concepts. Complicating this distinction is the fact that historically reference materials have tended to cover either one or the other but not the two in combination. Combining these two concepts in one work is what makes a revised edition of the *Encyclopedia of American Civil Rights and Liberties* so timely and valuable.

For the expanded edition of a work originally published in 2006, editors Kara E. Stooksbury, John M. Scheb II, and Otis H. Stephens, Jr. collected 75 new entries dealing with such evolving topics as gay marriage and government surveillance. Brimming with fresh material, this four-volume set now stretches to nearly 700 entries. Contributions vary in length from less than a page to six or seven pages; they introduce readers to key constitutional provisions and US Supreme Court decisions, social movements and advocacy organizations, historical figures, and relevant legal doctrines.

Entries on controversial issues will be particularly helpful to students; for example, there are at least four separate articles looking at different facets of the death penalty. Cross-referenced entries aid students in exploring the encyclopedia while “Further Reading” sections highlight additional paths to explore beyond the text.

The fourth volume of this encyclopedia contains forty primary documents that, as the editors explain in their preface, “have figured prominently in the development of civil rights and liberties in the Anglo-American legal and political traditions” (xxxii).

There are no comparable works on the market covering both civil liberties and civil rights. The editors intended for this to be a comprehensive work, but certain topics remain conspicuous by their absence. Notably missing are any entries on the Red Scare, or on the proliferation in recent years of so-called “ag gag” laws that make it illegal to photograph abuse of animals in factory farms. Nor is there an entry on International Workers of the World—even though the Wobblies led a now-famous campaign for free speech rights at the beginning of the twentieth century. While the

relevance of this title is indisputable, quickly evolving topics inevitably make for quickly out-of-date reference material. This item is recommended for high school and college libraries.—*Seth Kershner, Public Services Librarian, Northwestern Connecticut Community College, Winsted, Connecticut*

From Anesthesia to X-Rays: Innovations and Discoveries That Changed Medicine Forever. By Christiane Nockels Fabbri. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2016. 246 p. Acid-free \$58 (ISBN 978-1-6106-9573-2). E-book available (978-1-6106-9574-9), call for pricing.

For those who have an interest in the history and current practice of medicine, Christiane Fabbri’s *From Anesthesia to X-Rays* provides a helpful starting point in terms of choosing topics for more in-depth study. Prioritizing selectivity over comprehensiveness, this small encyclopedia includes fifty clinical procedures, tests, medications, and other innovations that changed therapeutic practice. Some, including birth control pills and polio vaccination, may already be familiar to the general public. Others, such as cataract surgery and pacemakers, are not as frequently mentioned in popular media, but are definitely worth knowing about. The author’s consultations with the medical community and with Nobel Prize lists ensured that only the most important, widely-applicable, and time-tested breakthroughs are highlighted.

Unfortunately, the audience for this work is not clear. While every entry begins with a what-where-when-who summary (a helpful feature often seen in high-school level reference books), quite a few entries include medical and scientific terms that are unlikely to be familiar to the average person. Also, the textbooks and journals cited in the bibliographies may not be easily accessible to most readers. Furthermore, the text would have benefitted greatly from line drawings to illustrate procedures that are difficult for non-clinicians to visualize. For example, the entry on “Angioplasty” describes Charles Dotter’s innovation as follows: “Dotter successfully dilated a narrowed area of the patient’s femoral artery, passing a guide wire and then coaxial rigid catheters through the stenosis, and reestablished distal blood flow” (2). There are no illustrations for this entry, and of the nine resources listed in the bibliography, four are textbooks by Lippincott, Saunders, or other technical publishers, while most of the others are medical journals. The advanced students who might be best able to wrap their heads around such jargon and sources are unlikely to use *From Anesthesia to X-Rays*, since current medical school training does not emphasize the history of medicine or the writing of term papers. Perhaps the best fit is the freshman or sophomore undergraduate who is seeking ideas for a writing assignment in an English composition or general-education science course.

If such limitations can be forgiven, *From Anesthesia to X-Rays* is a worthy purchase. While other medical encyclopedias exist—notably the *Gale Encyclopedias of Medicine* (2011), *Public Health* (2013), and *Surgery and Medical Tests*

SOURCES

(2014)—these are not as explicit about selecting medical discoveries because of their clinical innovation and broad use.—Bernadette A. Lear, *Behavioral Sciences and Education Librarian, Penn State Harrisburg Library, Middletown, Pennsylvania*

Celebrating Life Customs around the World: From Baby Showers to Funerals. By Victoria Williams. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2016. 3 vols. Acid-free \$294 (ISBN 978-1-4408-3658-9). E-book available (978-1-4408-3659-6), call for pricing.

Victoria Williams is a freelance writer and editor with a PhD focused on European fairy tales and folklore. She has edited a variety of ABC-CLIO reference works on folklore-related topics, ranging from sports and games to human sacrifice. *Celebrating Life Customs around the World: From Baby Showers to Funerals* is the most recent of Williams' works. The three-volume set consists of more than three hundred entries on rituals and customs related to specific life stages. The entries in this set are organized first by life stage, then alphabetically. The first volume focuses on birth and childhood, the second on adolescence and early adulthood, and the third on aging and death. Each entry ends with internal cross-references and further reading and includes inset color photographs, selected bibliography, and comprehensive index.

The introduction of the set states that it is primarily aimed at researchers but is jargon-free to be accessible to the general reader. However, it is questionable as an authoritative source for use by upper division undergraduates and beyond as not all of the entries use academically accurate and uncontested sources.

Where Williams excels is that the entries in this set are incredibly readable for an academic work. Because of its readability, it is a good primer or introduction to various topics for further study. The broad geographic areas covered in this work are impressive. Furthermore, Williams tackles subjects that might be uncomfortable for Western readers, such as endocannibalism, with tact and cultural relativism.

Celebrating Life Customs around the World: From Baby Showers to Funerals is a good introduction to various topics for community college or lower division undergraduates. This set would be a useful addition to a reference collection that is lacking introductory materials on anthropology, human geography, or folklore.—Chloe E. Bragg, *Technical Services Librarian, Ashland University, Ashland, Ohio*

D-Day: The Essential Reference Guide. Edited by Spencer C. Tucker. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2017. 280 p. Acid-free \$89 (ISBN 978-1-4408-4974-9). E-book available (978-1-4408-4975-6), call for pricing.

The Normandy Landings, commonly referred to as D-Day, was a pivotal moment in the course of the Second World War. This successful invasion of the northwestern

beaches of France marked the beginning of the Allied liberation of the western front, and would ultimately lead to the defeat of Nazi Germany. *D-Day: The Essential Reference Guide* successfully provides quality reference information on this major historical event.

This single-volume, 280-page work is home to a wealth of reference information on seemingly every relevant aspect of D-Day. Organized alphabetically, entries run between one and five pages in length. Fortunately for students and history buffs alike, each entry features a bibliography of further readings, enabling and encouraging users to continue their study and research. Editor Spencer C. Tucker has crafted an exceptional collection of well-written, illuminating entries covering such topics as Allied Warships, the French Resistance, Charles de Gaulle, and Operation Cobra.

Additionally, this reference work features numerous maps and charts of the invasion, a collection of nine facsimile primary source documents consisting of letters and speeches from the likes of President Franklin Roosevelt and General Dwight D. Eisenhower, an exceptionally detailed chronology of events that outlines (in some instances to the minute) the invasion, and a comprehensive bibliography of all sources cited in the creation of this volume. Despite the single-volume format, this encyclopedia contains all of the features one would expect from an expansive, multi-volume set.

One important consideration to take into account, and the only potential weakness of this work, is the scope of this encyclopedia. While a great many libraries would benefit from a general reference work on World War II in its entirety, adding a reference work singularly focused on one (admittedly very important) event within World War II could potentially limit the appeal for libraries and readers. High school and undergraduate libraries are most likely to have students studying World War II in moderate to significant detail and would probably benefit the most by having access to this reference work.

The many strengths of this encyclopedia, such as its diminutive size, approachable writing style, ease of use, and the breadth of its coverage on all aspects of D-Day, far outweigh its only notable weakness being its singular focus on D-Day itself. This encyclopedia is highly recommended for high school and undergraduate libraries.—Matthew Laudicina, *Reference Program Coordinator, Sojourner Truth Library, State University of New York at New Paltz*

Encyclopedia of African American Business: Updated and Revised Edition, 2nd ed. Edited by Jessie Carney Smith. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2017. 2 vols. Acid-free \$198 (ISBN 978-1-4408-5027-1). E-book available (978-1-4408-5028-8), call for pricing.

The African American contribution to business and economic institutions in America is significant and spans “the period from 18th-century America to the present” (xlv). This encyclopedia is unique in being a reference work dedicated