

BOOK ALERT

November/December 2007



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CONTENTS

| | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Architecture & Urban Planning | 5 |
| The Arts | 5 |
| Business & Management | 6 |
| Communication | 10 |
| Economics | 13 |
| Education | 14 |
| Environment | 15 |
| History & Civilization | 17 |
| Information Science & Technology | 19 |
| International Affairs | 22 |
| Law | 23 |
| Literature & Language | 26 |
| Philosophy & Religion | 28 |
| Political Science | 28 |
| Psychology | 30 |
| Science & Technology | 31 |
| Sociology | 32 |
| Author Index | 35 |
| Title Index | 35 |

ARCHITECTURE & URBAN PLANNING

1. Isenstadt, Sandy.
The modern American house : spaciousness and middle-class identity /
Sandy Isenstadt. Cambridge University Press, ©2006. 327 p.
REF 728.37 ISE

In *The Modern American House*, Sandy Isenstadt takes a closer look at the trends in the architecture of modern middle class houses in the United States. He illustrates the role of the architects, interior-designers, and landscape designers and their collaborative efforts in enhancing spatial perception in American middle class houses. The notion and enactment of spaciousness has been linked to financial limitations of the middle class and the evolutionary structure of domestic architectural standards as a whole. Isenstadt's wide survey of real estate, architecture, law, and economics seeks to explore how visual space became entwined with cultural values. The author argues that spaciousness was central to the development of modern American domestic architecture, with explicit strategies for perceiving space being pivotal to modern house design. -- (For use only in the Library) ND

THE ARTS

2. Jenness, David.
Classic American popular song : the second half-century, 1950-2000 /
David Jessess and Don Velsey. Routledge, ©2006. 385 p.
782.42164 JEN

Classic American Popular Song is a fine continuation of Alec Wilder's epoch-making *American Popular Song* and is an indispensable title for anyone who is interested in the development of American popular song. While labeling the first half of the century as the "Golden Age" of the classic pop song, the book explores what happened to the American popular song after 1950 and seeks to answer some of the closely associated questions. Offering sensible explanations of their methodology as well as musical examples and textual illustrations, Jenness and Velsey discuss scansion, musical structure (including uses of scales, form, and rhythm), and the creative challenges of poets, lyricists, and composers. The book discusses the cultural, economic, performance, social, and technological developments of the second half of the 20th century and leaves scope for

further investigation on the topic. Excellent use of resources, comments on the work of other music scholars and information gleaned from their own collections and from various archives add to the book and make it an excellent read. -- C/CH/M/ND

BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT

3. Anderson, Chris.
The long tail : why the future of business is selling less of more / Chris Anderson. Hyperion ©2006. 238 p. 658.802 AND

Wired editor Anderson declares the death of "common culture" and insists that it's for the best. Why don't we all watch the same TV shows, like we used to? Because not long ago, "we had fewer alternatives to compete for our screen attention," he writes. Smash hits have existed largely because of scarcity – with a finite number of bookstore shelves and theaters and Wal-Mart CD racks. Today, websites and online retailers offer seemingly infinite inventory, and the result is the "shattering of the mainstream into a zillion different cultural shards." These "countless niches" are market opportunities for those who cast a wide net and de-emphasize the search for blockbusters. Anderson's analysis and argument is provocative and gives entrepreneurs and other readers plenty to think about. -- CH/M
(Adapted from *Publisher's Weekly*, ©2006)

4. Career planning and succession management : developing your organization's talent—for today and tomorrow / William J. Rothwell ... [et al.]. Praeger Publishers, ©2005. 282 p. 658.3124 CAR

Drawing on a survey of 1,000 practitioners and examples from a variety of organizations, Rothwell shows human resource professionals and other corporate leaders how to create a link between succession and career development programs to prevent top performers from leaving, balance the needs of promoting from within versus bringing in new talent, and deal with unexpected "retirements" in an age of corporate scandal. -- CH/M/ND
(Adapted from *Book News, Inc.*, ©2005)

5. Discovering creative solutions to everyday challenges / Duke Corporate Education; Blair Sheppard ... [et al.]. Dearborn Trade Publishing, ©2006. 90 p. 658.403 DIS

Innovation is the driving force behind organizational growth and is capable of not only boosting profits and but also enabling companies to beat their competitors. Yet even the best managers lack the ability to advance novel ideas that result in practical solutions. This book draws on the in-depth research of Duke Corporate Education, a not-for-profit corporation held by Duke University, which is a global provider of custom corporate education that helps clients address real-world, real-time business challenges. Providing a framework for innovation, this book stresses that managers must concentrate on building a network of relationships. They should have the ability to identify the right challenges and develop a deep understanding of those challenges to effectively implement the solutions. Illustrated with examples, the book elaborates how managers can come out of the conventional stale thinking and deliver remarkable results for their companies. This is a must read book for those business professionals who would like to get the things done in a more creative way. -- CH/M/ND

6. Gottry, Steven R.
Common sense business : starting, operating, and growing your small business—in any economy! / Steve Gottry; foreword by Ken Blanchard. Collins, 2006. 336 p. 658.022 GOT

Gottry's experiences (with starting business) can help the small-business owners set their priorities and avoid the pitfalls that many young entrepreneurs make. Gottry guides the reader through the six stages of the small-business "life cycle," from dreaming and planning through the practical stages of implementation and growth. He advises on how to capitalize on one's own personal strengths in relation to employees, customers, and vendors. He also shows how to structure the day, remain sane, and keep business alive without drowning in it and becoming a workaholic. There are lots of books on starting a business, but few that are this concise and straightforward. -- CH/ND (Adapted from Booklist, ©2006)

7. Leadership : succeeding in the private, public, and not-for-profit sectors / edited by Ronald R. Sims and Scott A. Quatro. M.E. Sharpe, ©2005. 427 p. 658.4092 LEA

A diverse group of contributors express their views on how present-day leaders can improve their effectiveness in leading their organizations. The authors elaborate leadership in various sectors, current and future challenges faced by today's organizations, and numerous methods for responding to those challenges. The contributors – leaders, researchers, academics, and consultants – discuss leadership challenges confronting today's organization in their own perspective and vision. This collection of original writing is organized into five sections – leadership in for-profit-organizations, leadership in not-for-profit-organizations, leadership in government organizations, leadership across multiple organizational contexts, and global leadership. This book furthers our understanding of the role of leaders and the concept of leadership. -- M/ND

8. Managing yourself. Harvard Business School Publishing, ©2005. 186 p. 658.409 MAN

Managing yourself is a collection of eight articles, earlier published in the *Harvard Business Review*. It highlights the importance of developing maturity and self-awareness before attempting to lead others. To be an effective manager, one must be adept at managing one's own self. The volume offers sage advices from the business gurus like Peter F. Drucker and John P. Kotter on how managers can improve their personal performance and efficiency and move on to become better managers of those they lead. -- C/CH/M/ND

9. The results-driven manager : business etiquette for the new workplace. Harvard Business School Press, ©2005. 168 p. 395.52 RES

In today's culturally diverse, technology-infused business world, the chances of committing communication missteps in the workplace have skyrocketed. To avoid common etiquette pitfalls one must know what to say and when to say it. It's important to know how one should use one's skills and judgment to resolve a business etiquette dilemma. A poorly timed joke, a misread e-mail, or a fumbled negotiation can adversely affect one's reputation and effectiveness as a manager. This guide

would come in handy for readers who wish to master the skill of business etiquettes. -- ND

10. Thaler, John.
The elements of small business : a lay person's guide to the financial terms, marketing concepts and legal forms that every entrepreneur needs / John Thaler. Silver Lake Publishing, ©2005. 368 p. 658.022 THA

Thaler, an attorney who also runs an independent record company, gives readers the practical tips, tools, and advice needed to start and manage a small business. The topics covered include business formation, partnership agreements, buying a franchise, business plans, marketing and advertising, leases, insurance, and personnel. In addition, the chapter "Miscellaneous Issues" considers such things as Universal Product Code (UPC), patents and trademarks, power of attorney, and rights and agreements. A chapter on nonprofits is particularly useful, as most small business books do not cover them. Throughout, Thaler uses brief real-life stories, often as examples of how not to do things. Each chapter begins with a pithy, pertinent quote and ends with a short list of published resources. Written in a breezy, easy-to-read manner, this book would be valuable for entrepreneurs thinking of entering the business world. -- C (*Adapted from Library Journal*, ©2005)

11. Ulrich, David.
The HR value proposition / Dave Ulrich and Wayne Brockbank. Harvard Business School Press, ©2005. 316 p. 658.3 ULR

The authors argue that human resource (HR) professionals should focus on the key deliverables as organization capabilities and intangibles that define the organization's identity and personality and deliver high performance in order to create value. They draw on their own experiences to provide advice on how HR professionals can create value in the eyes of investors, customers, line managers, and employees. The book offers a workable blueprint for the HR professionals that could bring about transformation in their existing practices. Ulrich and Brockbank argue that the HR professionals should focus less on what they do and more on what they deliver. At the same time, they must add value to the contemporary HR practices and competencies. -- CH/M/ND

COMMUNICATION

12. Cooper, Anderson.
Dispatches from the edge : a memoir of war, disasters, and survival / Anderson Cooper. HarperCollins Publishers, ©2006. 212 p.
070 COO

In his book *Dispatches from the Edge*, popular CNN reporter and anchor Anderson Cooper takes readers behind the newsgathering scenes and straight into the heart of the reporter. This CNN reporter and anchor made a name for himself during his sensitive live coverage of the Gulf Coast in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. But beyond Katrina, he has also been in several other hot spots around the world as well – learning his trade in a big way and making his way up the news-show ladder. This is a book filled with tragedies – Hurricane Katrina, the tsunami in Sri Lanka, the starvation in Africa, and the war in Sarajevo. Cooper also takes a look inward at his motivations in gravitating to dangerous adventures, and at his family history. He scrutinizes how those relations helped formulate his view of life and compelled him to follow his dreams and desires. He has brilliantly tied together his own personal tragedies – losing both his father and brother at a young age, his brother committing suicide – with his experiences of covering tragedies around the world. The stories he relates from the frontlines of wars, disasters and famines are more intriguing than what often ends up on our television screens and perhaps closer to the truth. The book is an honest and unforgettable memoir of one of America's most trusted, fearless, and pioneering reporters. -- C/CH/M/ND

13. Fisher, Roger.
Beyond reason : using emotions as you negotiate / Roger Fisher and Daniel Shapiro. Penguin Books, 2006. 244 p. 302.3 FIS

This book addresses the emotions and relationships inevitably involved in negotiation. Readers will discover five "core concerns" that motivate people – appreciation, affiliation, autonomy, status, and role. Fisher and Shapiro have elaborated these concepts with the help of practical examples of commonly faced situations, which spans from dealing with colleagues to understanding one's spouse. Anecdotes of high-level negotiations regarding critical matters further enliven the reading – for example Fisher's conversation with the head of Iran's Islamic Republican Party when U.S. embassy in Teheran was seized in 1979. Fisher and Shapiro

carefully analyze the negotiations where they could not succeed and they review and re-play that according to their behavioral framework for more favorable resolutions. They offer straightforward, practical advice showing how to employ emotions to turn a disagreement – big or small, professional or personal – into an opportunity for mutual gain. Fresh, insightful, and relevant to any interaction, *Beyond Reason* has all the needed potential to become a lasting classic for dealing with anyone from family and friends to colleagues, customers, and employees. -- CH/M

14. Goldstein, Fred R.
The great telecom meltdown / Fred R. Goldstein. Artech House,
©2005. 191 p. 384.3 GOL

The Great Telecom Meltdown illustrates the way most of the savvy telecommunications professionals and investors were overtaken by the developments at the turn of the 21st century. Goldstein describes the previous stable world of Ma Bell until 1969, the intrusion of new technologies and competition, divestiture, the impact of the Internet, and the plethora of corporate arrangements and re-arrangements that followed. He also follows the impact of deregulation and new rules that did various things to the business, not all of them logical. Finally, Goldstein looks at what matters the most after all: profits. The title offers a firm perspective of the budding structure of the information, communications, and telecom industries, and how companies and sectors within these industries are correlated. -- CH (*Adapted from Book News, Inc., ©2005*)

15. Howard, Philip N.
New media campaigns and the managed citizen / Philip N. Howard.
Cambridge University Press, ©2006. 264 p. 324.73 HOW

The political campaign is one of the most important and least understood organizations in contemporary political life. Looking at evidence from ethnographic immersion, survey data, and social network analysis, Howard examines the evolving act of political campaigning and the changing organization of campaigns over five election cycles, from 1996 to 2004. In that time the typical political campaign has adopted digital technologies that improve reach and fundraising and also adapted its organizational behavior. The new system of producing political culture, Howard argues, has important implications for the meaning of citizenship

and the basis of representation. -- M (Adapted from *Book News, Inc.*, ©2006)

16. Reynolds, Glenn H.
An army of Davids : how markets and technology empower ordinary people to beat big media, big government, and other Goliaths / Glenn Reynolds. Nelson Current, ©2006. 289 p. 303.4833 REY

In this testament to the power of the little guy, law professor and blogger Reynolds gleefully hails the emergence of a new entrepreneurial class resulting from the democratizing power of technology – the manifestation of his observation that "a society that's rich and free will have citizens who, entirely on their own, develop a wide range of skills." Citizen terrorist-busters, hackers and average Joe techies have used Internet technologies to foil terrorism in the U.S. Others have taken on big media, forcing newspapers and networks into something "akin to what happened to the Church during the Reformation." Reynolds shows how technology opened up markets to software companies in Poland and to filmmakers and musicians in Africa. Proclaiming good blogging as a combination of "rapid response times" and "personal voice," Reynolds praises the explosion of cyber-self expression, seeing it as yet another way to proliferate information and build knowledge among communities. And while Reynolds may seem naïve in ignoring any potential negatives that could arise from widespread, unmitigated, technology-enabled empowerment and does little to touch upon the ethical implications of the everyman becoming a superman, he brings a contagious sense of optimism to this "new reality." -- CH/M (Adapted from *Publishers Weekly*, ©2006)

17. Spinner, Jackie.
Tell them I didn't cry : a young journalist's story of joy, loss, and survival in Iraq / Jackie Spinner; with Jenny Spinner. Scribner, ©2006. 265 p. 956.70443 SPI

Jackie Spinner, a Washington Post staff writer, recounts the challenges she faced when she arrived in Iraq in May 2004 as the most junior bureau staff and remembers the entry into a war zone where traditional reporting had become impossible. In this memoir, she writes in simple yet descriptive language about the daily challenges and rewards of life in a war zone. Over the course of nine months, she carves her niche at the Baghdad bureau as den mother and human-interest reporter. She

objectively reports on the struggles and aspirations of everyday Iraqis, the triumphs and failures of the military and the violence that traps her indoors most of the time, but the heart of this book is in her personal investment in the bureau's Iraqi staff. Spinner cooks weekly dinners for them, plays soccer in the hallways with them and teaches them English. Each chapter ends with reflections written by Jenny, her twin back home, an English professor, who belies her fears with chipper encouragement and dreads toy deliveries to her son because Jackie always orders them online after near-death experiences. Affable and earnest, Spinner made herself at home in war, creating a "family" despite cultural and language barriers, and hers is a unique perspective on living and reporting in Iraq. -- C/CH/M/ND (*Adapted from Publishers Weekly*, ©2006)

ECONOMICS

18. Kapur, Devesh.
Give us your best and brightest : the global hunt for talent and its impact on the developing world / Devesh Kapur and John McHale.
Center for Global Development, ©2005. 246 p. 331.12 KAP

This excellent piece of work by Kapur and McHale focuses on the growing migration of skilled and talented people from the developing countries to the developed countries and the political and economic implications of this flow of skilled workers especially on the developing countries. The authors judiciously present the facts, theory, and an informed conjecture on this increasing and complex phenomenon. The book highlights the scale of such migration and the policies of the principal receiving countries including Australia, Canada, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States toward the migrated skilled foreign workers. It also looks into the impact of this migration on the sending countries – both positive and negative. While the authors do not rule out such migration, they conclude with a review of the policies that could be adopted by both the developing and the developed countries. -- M

19. Schramm, Carl J.
The entrepreneurial imperative : how America's economic miracle will reshape the world (and change your life) / Carl J. Schramm. Collins, ©2006. 195 p. 338.04 SCH

This is an innovative and idea-driven book that explores the secret that led the American economy to become the world's strongest economy. Entrepreneurship is the hammer that Schramm wields, and everything looks like a nail. According to him, the freedom to start one's own business is the key to America's survival – the only uniquely American resource at the disposal of its people and the only answer if Americans hope to continue to thrive. Schramm makes a solid case for emphasizing entrepreneurial thinking and policy. He notes that globalization has stripped away many U.S. advantages in technology, education and manufacturing, and argues that big companies must remodel themselves after technologically savvy startups. This book elucidates the way American economy has changed in the past twenty-five years and how to be prepared for the future. -- CH/M/ND *(Adapted from Publishers Weekly, ©2006)*

EDUCATION

20. Bok, Derek Curtis.
Our underachieving colleges : a candid look at how much students learn and why they should be learning more / Derek Bok. Princeton University Press, ©2006. 413 p. 378.73 BOK

There has been no shortage over the past two decades of scholars willing to tell us "what's wrong" with higher education, but Derek Bok, president emeritus and research professor at Harvard University and the author of many major books on higher education, makes a unique contribution by skillfully weaving his critique of campus and curriculum with an extensive review of the literature on student learning in a number of key areas, including writing instruction, critical thinking instruction, civic education, and diversity education. Rather than identify a narrowly defined culprit in the supposed decline of higher education, such as political correctness or neglect of the literary canon, Bok writes persuasively about the multiple aims of higher education and retains focus throughout on the question of how attention to each of these aims contributes to measurable increases in student learning. While his review of the literature in widely

scattered areas (including writing across the curriculum, civic engagement and service learning, and preparing for life in a multicultural society and a global economy) is not exhaustive, it does provide a basic understanding of major issues and helps the reader tie those discrete arguments together into a vision for higher education in the 21st century. This thoughtful critique of higher education is bound to be appreciated by those who are associated with higher education. -- CH/M/ND (Adapted from *Library Journal*, ©2006)

21. Golde, Chris M.
Envisioning the future of doctoral education : preparing stewards of the discipline, Carnegie essays on the doctorate / Chris M. Golde, George E. Walker, and Associates. Jossey-Bass, ©2006. 450 p. 378.24 GOL

Envisioning the Future of Doctoral Education is a collection of essays by scholars from different disciplines on the topic of the importance of graduate education. The essays were commissioned for Carnegie Initiative on the Doctorate (CID). The book puts forward new and invigorating ideas about the doctorate, some of which may be unique to their discipline, but equally applicable across the fields. Despite the fact that the contributors to this volume's 21 essays have apparently thrived under the current doctoral system, they pay attention to calls for change and the paradoxes in graduate education in disciplines including the sciences, mathematics, education, history, English and the humanities. The concept of stewardship is at the core of the scholars, as they encourage cross-fertilization of ideas across the disciplinary communities. -- CH (Adapted from *Book News, Inc.*, ©2006)

ENVIRONMENT

22. Baker, Susan.
Sustainable development / Susan Baker. Routledge, ©2006. 245 p. 338.927 BAK

The last third of the twentieth century has witnessed the growth of the modern environmentalist movement, which led to popular and academic concerns about local and global environmental degradation. A critical understanding of socio-economic, political and cultural processes and structures is essential for understanding environmental problems and instituting environmentally sustainable development. A commitment to the promotion of sustainable development is deepening at the international,

regional and national levels. *Sustainable Development* is an introductory, comprehensive, yet critical book that explores the challenges involved in the implementation of sustainable development at all levels. It explores various sustainable development concerns across different socio-political and economic contexts. -- M

23. Corburn, Jason.
Street science : community knowledge and environmental health justice / Jason Corburn. MIT Press, ©2005. 271 p. 362.196 COR

Jason Corburn's *Street Science: Community Knowledge and Environmental Health Justice* is an important addition to the literature on the science and politics of environmental health decision making. In this highly original and thought-provoking look at the environmental health policymaking, Cornurn provides a through and prescriptive understanding of local environmental health knowledge and explores the way this local knowledge could be combined with the professional techniques to achieve better solutions for environmental health problems. At the heart of the street science, as he prefers to call it, are four case studies from Greenpoint/Williamsburg where diverse racial and ethnic, low-income populations practice "science on the streets of Brooklyn." He looks at the four instances, where community members and professionals combined forces to address the risks from subsistence fishing from the polluted East River, the asthma epidemic in the Latino community, childhood lead poisoning, and local sources of air pollution. Street science, as Corburn admits, has some limitations, especially when local and scientific knowledge conflict. Although its not a panacea, *Street Science* of Corburn provides a foundation for understanding the way local knowledge can lead to better health, science and politics by democratizing the inquiry and decision-making processes. -- CH

24. Re-thinking green : alternatives to environmental bureaucracy / edited by Robert Higgs and Carl P. Close. Independent Institute, ©2005. 467 p. 333.72 RET

Advocating public choice as an alternative to environmental regulation, *Re-thinking Green* adds important insights about alternatives to centralized government control. The book is a collection of essays by economists, philosophers, and business scholars. In general, the essays attempt to look beyond the failed environmental bureaucracy and try to

explore what can be done better in this area. While proposing bold alternatives and appropriate public policy regarding the environment, the book provides provocative, fresh insights into the debate. -- CH/M/ND

HISTORY & CIVILIZATION

25. Cohen, Rich.
Sweet and low : a family story / Rich Cohen. Farrar, Straus and Giroux,
©2006. 272 p. 929.2 COH

Cohen's grandfather, Benjamin Eisenstadt, created the artificial sweetener saccharine and modified a tea-bagging machine to produce individual, sanitary packets of sugar substitute, calling it Sweet'N Low. Cohen expands the story beyond the family by incorporating truncated histories of Jews in New York, the saga of sugar alternatives and the rise and fall of Sen. Alfonse D'Amato. Nevertheless, internecine wars over the family fortune, ending with a legal battle over Grandma's will, dominate. The tale is laced with humor and family shenanigans. Cohen, the son of Eisenstadt's disinherited daughter, has a bit of an axe to grind. A hint of smugness creeps in as Grandpa Ben and his son, Marvin, are convicted of misdeeds that are more low than sweet. -- C/CH/M/ND (Adapted from *Publishers Weekly*, ©2006)

26. Furgurson, Ernest B.
Freedom rising : Washington in the Civil War / Ernest B. Furgurson. 1st
Vintage Civil War Library ed. Vintage Books, 2005. 463 p.
973.7092 FUR

For over 60 years, Margaret Leech's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Reveille in Washington* has been the standard work on the Union's capital during the Civil War. Since its publication, much has been discovered, and new schools of historical scholarship have emerged. *Washington* columnist Furgurson has written a fast-paced new history. Woven into the story of Lincoln's struggle to preserve the Union, find a winning general, abolish slavery, and make peace with his cabinet and with Congress, as well as his assassination and the nation's response, are the stories of the common and not so common people drawn to the swelling capital during the war years. The author sometimes seems to be straining to include the stories of women and African Americans, but their presence makes this work more valuable to modern

scholars than Leech's. Based upon a wide variety of manuscript and published sources, this readable and well-documented volume can be recommended for all libraries and can serve as an approachable introduction to the Civil War. -- CH (*Adapted from Library Journal*, ©2005)

27. Sides, Hampton.
Blood and thunder : an epic of the American West / Hampton Sides.
Doubleday, ©2006. 460 p. 978.02 SID

Two related but not interdependent epic themes run through this book – the wresting of the Southwest and California away from Mexico to make them a part of the United States and efforts by the Navajo to protect their territory from inroads by Mexico and the United States. Outside magazine editor Sides does not give readers much guidance as to which is the principal theme or what his exact intent is here. It appears that he began with the Navajo resistance and kept adding interesting stories as he came upon them, without considering how they related to the dual theme. But he does know how to tell a good story, drawing on a wide variety of published sources. *Blood and Thunder* is a riveting account filled with colorful, flawed characters neither wholly heroic nor villainous. The title is a must-read for both students and casual observers of the American history. -- CH/M (*Adapted from Library Journal*, ©2006)

28. Stout, Harry S.
Upon the altar of the nation : a moral history of the American Civil War / Harry S. Stout. Viking, ©2006. 552 p. 973.71 STO

In the Civil War, Union and Confederate soldiers alike marched to battle believing God was on their side. Stout artfully and eloquently examines the evolving rhetoric of warfare, both Northern and Confederate, within the rubric of "the just war" theory of conflict. Stout dissects such public documents as editorials, sermons and speeches, and private documents like diaries and letters, to trace the trajectory of both sides' rationales for war. But he also makes clear that most high-minded utterances obscured, rather than clarified, the economic issues that lay at the heart of the conflict. Stout argues that even today the moral justifications for the carnage ring louder than do the sordid dollar-and-cents realities that underlie sectional differences. As Stout shows, the Civil War remains with us today as an exercise of civil religion: altars of the two conflicting faiths stand side-by-side at Gettysburg and other venues. Stout's contention that even the

North engaged in immoral acts in prosecuting the war will rattle many, but the questions he raises are important in an era when humanitarian justifications for war are increasingly common. -- CH (Adapted from *Publishers Weekly*, ©2006)

INFORMATION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

29. Battelle, John.
The search : how Google and its rivals rewrote the rules of business and transformed our culture / John Battelle. Portfolio, 2006. 329 p. 338.761 BAT

Battelle, cofounder of *Wired magazine* and founder of *The Industry Standard*, has written a history of the search engine giant Google that attempts to place the phenomenon of Internet searching within the broader context of society and culture. *The Search* not only offers the inside story of Google's triumph, but also the picture of the past, present, and future of search technology and the enormous impact it's starting to have on marketing, media, pop culture, dating, job hunting, international law, civil liberties, and just about every other sphere of human interest. The tale of Google's humble beginnings in a Stanford dorm room and eventual domination of the search landscape is an interesting enough story in itself. But it becomes fascinating against the backdrop of geeky entrepreneurs and their fledgling companies waging battles of ideas and ideals. Along the way, Battelle skillfully examines ethical and political issues of search – personal privacy being a big one. The implications of search as a cultural marker and what its future might hold make this a thought-provoking work with relevance beyond business and technology. -- CH/M (Adapted from *Library Journal*, ©2005)

30. Beagle, Donald Robert.
The information commons handbook / Donald Robert Beagle ; with contributions by Donald Bailey and Barbara Tierney. Neal-Schuman Publishers, ©2006. 247 p. REF 025.523 BEA

Divided into three parts, this guide introduces readers to Information Commons (IC) – physical, virtual, and cultural environments and their resources, organized to support learning. "Information Commons" often refers to the theoretical production, sharing, and democratic discussion

of information that is afforded by new technologies. It also refers to the physical manifestation of this concept - new facilities that bring together researchers, instructors, students, teachers, and users into one space and equip them with technology (computers, projectors, Internet) and facilities (workstations, conference and class rooms, print stations) for success. Part one discusses IC in terms of various levels, history, convergence with information literacy, and evolution into learning commons. Part two is devoted to planning an IC. Topics include strategic planning, scenario-building techniques, projecting the future commons, and tactical planning. Finally, part three offers special guidance for public libraries, explores implementation and assessment, and discusses user-community needs. A CD-ROM accompanies the text and profiles 10 libraries of various types and sizes that use the IC model. Notable for its detailed examples and supportive figures, notes, and citations, this is an important tool that contributes greatly to the field. -- (For use only in the Library) M *(Adapted from Booklist, ©2006)*

31. Braman, Sandra.
Change of state : information, policy, and power / Sandra Braman. MIT Press, ©2006. 545 p. 303.4833 BRA

Sandra Braman explores the way control over information creation, processing, flows, and use is becoming the most effective form of power. Today, the conventional bureaucratic welfare state is gradually being replaced by an information state. Braman examines the ramifications of this “change of state” and the way this impacts the change in the nature of governance itself. After initial elaboration of the concept of the informational state, she scrutinizes the information policies of the U.S. Constitution and explores the way U.S. information policy affects the identity and structure of the state itself and that of the individuals, communities, and organizations that make up the state. Braman has not only done an excellent job of detailing the concept of information policy but also the way information policy brings the fundamental social changes in a transforming information state. -- CH/M

32. Elahi, Ata.
Data, network, and Internet communications technology / Ata Elahi,
Mehran Elahi. Thomson Delmar learning, ©2006. 570 p. 004.6 ELA

This book focuses on the technological aspects of networking. Written for students majoring in computer science, electronics technology, or engineering, the book provides the readers a base much needed to understand more complex networking concepts. The concepts discussed are local area networks (LANs), wide area networks (WANs), the Internet, wireless LANs, wireless MANs, voice over IP (VoIP), as well as asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) and network security. The content of the book is clear and the approach is practical rather than theoretical or mathematical. The text has been written in easy to understand language while the broad range of topics is appealing for students of higher level courses. -- CH/M/ND

33. Mann, Catherine L.
Accelerating the globalization of America : the role for information
technology / Catherine L. Mann; with Jacob Funk Kirkegaard. Institute
for International Economics, ©2006. 237 p. 303.4833 MAN

The information technology (IT) has grown to be the most significant sector in contemporary global economy, leaving behind investment and trade growth for any other product. The author lays emphasis on the growth of IT as a pivotal industry that is capable of not only improving productivity but also overall economic prospect. Globalization of United States IT firms has promoted deeper integration of IT throughout the U.S. economy, which has promoted more extensive globalization of other sectors of the U.S. economy and the labor market. *Accelerating the Globalization of America* traces and analyzes the issues related to globalization of the IT sector and the way it is affecting the overall globalization of America. -- CH/M

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

34. Borgwardt, Elizabeth.
A new deal for the world : America's vision for human rights / Elizabeth Borgwardt. Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, ©2005. 437 p. 327.17 BOR

A New Deal for the World is an insightful and lively account of the architects of the postwar global system and their ideas. It reveals the significance of political and economic human rights in the United States diplomatic history and more generally in American political discourse. Elizabeth Borgwardt describes the way World War II American planners inaugurated the ideas and institutions that underlie modern international human rights. While advocating the Atlantic Charter as one of the foundational documents that led to the emerging post-World War II international system, she asserts that the U.S. foreign policy underwent a seismic shift during the World War II leading to dramatic changes in the meaning of ideas about security, sovereignty, the national interest, and international human rights. The book is a rich and original account of the architects of the postwar global system and their ideas. It illuminates the broader history of modern human rights, trade and the global economy, security, and the international law. -- CH/M

35. Ervin, Clark Kent.
Open target : where America is vulnerable to attack / Clark Kent Ervin. Palgrave Macmillan, ©2006. 260 p. 363.35 ERV

Appointed Acting Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security in January 2003, Ervin left after 18 months when Congress refused to confirm him. The reason, he writes, is that he did his job too well, pointing out so much mismanagement and so many security lapses that the bureaucracy turned against him. Based on his first-hand experiences and observations of how the Department of Homeland Security is failing to make America safe, Ervin sounds the alarm that America remains frighteningly vulnerable to terrorism. He explores the Department's weaknesses, describes what the DHS should be doing and how it falls short. Air travel, mass transit, and the nation's ports and borders must be further secured. Fragmented intelligence allowed the 9/11 plotters to succeed, but the Department of Homeland Security has not yet achieved coordination of intelligence. Finally, the massive DHS budget requires the establishment of

strict accounting and antifraud policies. Though the author notes progress in some areas, he thinks the department has made woefully inadequate headway, is incompetently administered and starved for funds. -- CH
(Adapted from *Publishers Weekly*, ©2006)

LAW

36. Beard, Charles Austin.
The Supreme Court and the Constitution / Charles A. Beard ; introduction and bibliographies by Alan F. Westin. Dover ed. Dover Publications, 2006. 149 p. 347.7326 BEA

This book is a thorough analysis of the early history and development of judicial review. Written by a preeminent judicial and constitutional scholar, the title investigates the role of U.S. high court in interpreting and enforcing the laws of the America's framing documents. It also takes stock of the controversies in exercising the judicial power and dismisses charges of Supreme Court's usurpation of judicial review powers. The content of this edition is supplemented by an appendix and bibliographies, which will come handy to the students and scholars of political science, history and law. -- CH/M

37. Berman, Greg.
Good courts : the case for problem-solving justice / Greg Berman and John Feinblatt. New Press, ©2005. 237 p. 345.7301 BER

"There's no reason why justice has to be one-size-fits-all," argue the authors of this plainspoken guide to problem-solving courtrooms. In these courtrooms, the judge, prosecution and defense are not adversaries. Instead, once a defendant opts into a problem-solving court, all parties work as a team to address the needs of both the defendant – whom they seek to rehabilitate more than to punish – and the community at large. Although supporters of problem-solving courts have much to celebrate owing to high-profile successes, their detractors raise concerns about how well the rights of a defendant are protected when the judge, prosecution and defense sit on the same side of the table to decide what's best for the accused. Berman, director of the Center for Court Innovation think tank, and Criminal Justice Coordinator Feinblatt do a decent job addressing these and other objections, but in the end, the issue is not so much whether problem-solving courts satisfy the requirements of the traditional courtroom as whether the

traditional courtroom fits the judicial topography of 21st-century America. The authors dismiss the traditional courtroom out of hand, but their book seems to suggest that the problem-solving approach could replace traditional courts in most if not all cases. Sociologists and those within the legal system will no doubt be intrigued by this accessible and provocative call for change. -- CH/M (Adapted from *Publishers Weekly*, ©2005)

38. Breyer, Stephen G.
Active liberty : interpreting our democratic Constitution / Stephen G. Breyer. Knopf, ©2005, 161 p. 342 BRE

In this short book, based on lectures delivered at Harvard, Breyer, Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court since 1994, explains how he reads the Constitution and the statutes enacted under it. He argues that as the framers established a democracy, all interpretations must be "view[ed] through a more democratic lens." He rejects originalism and textualism, doctrines favored by colleagues Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas, arguing that original intents are murky and often unknowable while literal adherence to the text can produce "seriously harmful consequences" and perverse results. For Breyer, democracy means that the people, through their elected representatives, should not be thwarted by rigid philosophies of judicial interpretation that let the letter of the law kill its spirit. Though conservatives will see Breyer's arguments as judicial overreaching and making law rather than interpreting it, his book is a good introduction to how judges observe the rule of law. -- CH/M/ND (Adapted from *Library Journal*, ©2005)

39. Lee, Yong S.
A reasonable public servant : constitutional foundations of administrative conduct in the United States / Yong S. Lee, with David H. Rosenbloom; foreword by Rosemary O'Leary. M.E. Sharpe, ©2005. 299 p. 342.730684 LEE

This great book explores the constitutional foundation of public service in the United States. Aimed at students and public servants, the text applies constitutional theory to the practice of public administration. Lee begins with an overview of some legal standards for personal and official responsibility. He then addresses the constitutional and civil rights of public

servants in areas such as critical speech, employment discrimination, and sexual harassment. -- ND (*Adapted from Book News, Inc., ©2006*)

40. Melusky, Joseph Anthony.
The contemporary Constitution : modern interpretations / Joseph Anthony Melusky. Krieger Publishing Company, ©2006. 349 p.
342.7302 MEL

In this introduction to the United States Constitution, Melusky provides introductory essays on the power-granting and power-limiting provisions of the Constitution and reproductions of the texts of the Declaration of Independence, the pre-constitutional Articles of Confederation, the Constitution itself, and selections from the The Federalist papers. Apropos to the Melusky's stress on the Constitution as a "living" document, the bulk of the material is devoted to excerpts of 33 Supreme Court cases deciding constitutional issues over the course of the 1990s and early 2000s. -- C (*Adapted from Book News, Inc., ©2006*)

41. Weiner, Mark Stuart.
Black trials : citizenship from the beginnings of slavery to the end of caste / Mark S. Weiner. 1st Vintage books ed. Vintage Books, 2006.
421 p. 342.7308 WEI

Weiner examines questions of race and citizenship within the context of the U.S. legal system through the stories of fourteen legal cases that helped shape the American ideas of belonging and citizenship. Weiner also provides historical perspective, from the early fears of slave revolt, including the Great Negro Plot in 1741 in New York, to John Brown's revolt in 1859, to more contemporary racially charged legal issues, including the 1931 trial of the Scottsboro boys and the 1991 Anita Hill-Clarence Thomas confirmation testimony. But Weiner is at his best when focusing on the more obscure cases, using biographical research to flesh out detail not usually granted to black historical figures. Weiner's underlying subject is the evolution of civil rights integrated with founding principles of America and its attempts to reconcile the differences between ideals and historical reality. This historical and social critique should enjoy broad appeal from historical scholars to the general reader. -- CH/M (*Adapted from Booklist, ©2006*)

LITERATURE & LANGUAGE

42. Asimov, Janet.
Notes for a memoir : on Isaac Asimov, life, and writing / Janet Jeppson
Asimov. Prometheus Books, ©2006. 207 p. 813.54 ASI

Psychiatrist, psychoanalyst, and writer Janet J. Asimov was married to polymath Isaac Asimov from 1973 until his death in 1992. In this collection of family photographs, fiction, and excerpts from never-before-published letters, she describes her life with Isaac and her thoughts and ideas about life in general. Isaac was born into a Jewish family and Janet into a Mormon one, and Janet lovingly and carefully describes the couples' differences and similarities here. She shares her thoughts on reading, writing, travel, personal growth, and organized religion. Janet's training as a doctor and psychiatrist are important aspects of her struggle to develop a personal philosophy; her view of personal growth and happiness and the importance of helping people ultimately led her to a humanistic philosophy. Janet's writings about Isaac's death and her resulting grief are poignant and moving. A selection of her short stories concludes the book and highlights many of her ideas. -- CH (*Adapted from Library Journal*, ©2006)

43. Crossing over : partition literature from India, Pakistan, and
Bangladesh / Frank Stewart, editor; Sukrita Paul Kumar, guest editor.
University of Hawaii Press, ©2007. 219 p. 828 CRO

This thought-provoking title is the latest in the series from *Manoa: A Pacific Journal International Writing* captures the responses, emotions, and movements of people across borders during the liberation of Indian subcontinent after nearly a century of British rule. Judiciously selected works of fiction, poetry, and memoir illustrate and explore the aftermath of the exodus of the British and their colonial government from South Asia. The independence of the Indian subcontinent came in conjunction with sectarian violence and massive frantic migration across newly formed national borders of India and Pakistan in the midnight hours of August 14, 1947, which was repeated once again during transformation of East Pakistan into the independent nation of Bangladesh in 1971. This timely book marks the sixtieth anniversary of Indian independence from the British rule and its partition into two countries – India and Pakistan. *Crossing Over* comprises stories from three South Asian countries – India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh – which are deeply concerned with an aesthetic shaping of the incidents of

Partition especially those who lived through the events. Most of these stories attempt to describe and comprehend how normal human beings could so easily be swept into barbarism breaking down all tolerance, respect, and compassion. Written by some of the region's finest authors – in Hindi, Urdu, Bengali, and English – these works not only make us aware of the possible responses to ethnic, religious, and national divisiveness, but also offer some solutions for creating a new future. -- C/CH/M/ND

44. Pichaske, David R.
Rooted : seven Midwest writers of place / by David R. Pichaske;
foreword by Wayne Franklin. University of Iowa Press, ©2006. 355 p.
810.9 PIC

In *Rooted: Seven Midwest Writers of Place*, David Pichaske establishes the relationship between writers and their places by focusing on seven contemporary Midwestern authors who came of age toward the close of the twentieth century. By paying close attention to text, landscape, and biography, he examines the relationship between place and art – how the place shapes thought and art and vice versa. He explores the way these authors' life and work are grounded in distinct places – Dave Etter in small-town upstate Illinois; Norbert Blei in Door County, Wisconsin; William Kloefkorn in southern Kansas and Nebraska; Bill Holm in Minnesota, Minnesota; Linda Hasselstrom in Hermosa, South Dakota; Jim Heynen in Sioux County, Iowa; and Jim Harrison in upper Michigan. Their knowledge of their places is reflected in their use of details of geography, language, environment, and behavior. On the other hand each writer extends beyond their geographies into other dimensions of art and thought, which gives them the needed complexity to transcend provincial boundaries. Pichaske keeps away from jargon and presents a practical analysis that is both readable and interesting. -- CH

45. The poem that changed America : "Howl" fifty years later / edited by
Jason Shinder. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, ©2006. 288 p. 811.54 POE

Celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of *Howl*, Shinder has collected 26 essays that document the poem's reception, from its stormy City Lights publication in November 1956 to the canonical status it enjoys today. Contributors include fellow poets Amiri Baraka, Andrei Codrescu, Alicia Ostriker, and Robert Pinsky as well as disciples like Anne Waldman and Eliot Katz. There are also appreciations by scholars and

journalists like Marjorie Perloff, Gordon Ball, David Gates, Vivian Gornick, and Ginsberg's early biographer, Jane Kramer. While the contributors' tone is generally respectful, their comments are not always laudatory. Phillip Lopate, for instance, complains about Ginsberg's sentimentality, while Frank Bidart charges that fame turned the poet into a guru. On the whole, this book reveals the pioneering influence of Ginsberg's signature work through the decades and its powerful resonance today. -- C/CH/M/ND (*Adapted from Library Journal*, ©2006)

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

46. Barrett, Paul.
American Islam : the struggle for the soul of a religion / Paul M. Barrett. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, ©2007. 304.p. 297 BAR

Although a number of books on Islam and Islamic terrorism have been written after 9/11, this title by Barrett clearly stands apart as he portrays individual Muslims living in the United States. Barrett takes stock of the personal experiences of these individuals and presents a distinctive view of Islam in America. Interesting and diverse people from different walks of life have been under Barrett's scrutiny – a black imam, an activist, a webmaster, a publisher, two mystics, a scholar, and a feminist. The feminist works for change in her local mosque, which results in some tensions and conflict in her community. The webmaster is a graduate student who also hosts an Arabic-language Islamic web site containing radical messages. Balanced and insightful, this grassroots journalistic account mines the intricacies and depth of American Islam. -- ND

POLITICAL SCIENCE

47. Burner, David.
John F. Kennedy and a new generation / David Burner. 2nd ed. Pearson/Longman, ©2005. 210 p. 973.922 KEN

In this edition, Burner presents Kennedy and liberalism in a favorable light despite Kennedy's personal flaws. He traces Kennedy's background and views that reflected many American paradoxes. After a brief treatment of his 1963 assassination, the final chapter examines Kennedy's

legacy including the political ambitions of his brothers, the Peace Corps, and laying the groundwork for Johnson's Great Society. This book helps the young generations of the United States better understand Kennedy's importance to America and the Americans. -- ND (*Adapted from Book News, Inc.*, ©2005)

48. Novak, Michael.
Washington's God : religion, liberty, and the father of our country /
Michael Novak and Jana Novak. Basic Books, ©2006. 282 p.
973.41 WAS

Most modern historians have made three basic assumptions about the religious views of America's first president – he was a deist, he was only a marginal Christian who kept up appearances but had no depth of conviction, and he believed only in an impersonal force or destiny that he called "Providence." Michael Novak, the well-known conservative thinker, teams up with his daughter Jana to attempt to debunk all three of these notions about Washington's religious views. It is most persuasive when the Novaks show that despite his natural reserve, a depth of religious feeling ran through Washington's public and private speeches and correspondence, disproving the portrait of a tepid, perfunctory Anglicanism. Novaks adopt the modern assumptions that being a Christian and being a deist were mutually exclusive—a conclusion that few in the late 18th century would have shared. At times, the Novaks' starry-eyed admiration of the man pushes this book over the bounds of biography into hagiography. -- CH/M (*Adapted from Publishers Weekly*, ©2006)

49. Taylor, Andrew J.
Elephant's edge : the Republicans as a ruling party / Andrew J. Taylor ;
foreword by Norman J. Ornstein. Praeger Publishers, ©2005. 319 p.
324.2734 TAY

The operative word in this book's title is edge because Taylor says that the Republicans have the political advantage but do not have the appeal to become the long-term majority party. In this excellent investigation into the state of the Republican Party, he credits Newt Gingrich for the deft organizational skills that led to the Republican resurgence with the takeover of the House after decades of Democratic control. The Republicans maintain their edge, in no small part, through pork-barrel politics and redistricting, tactics that Republicans complained about when the Democrats did the same.

The author shows that the edge has been bolstered by Bush's post-9/11 foreign policy (despite failings of the Iraq war), the increasing conservative judicial rulings of all courts, and small-government, low-tax policies. Despite this, Taylor concludes that the Republican Party will not achieve the dominance for which it aims because of the flexibility of the Democratic Party to adapt to its constituents' needs, the deteriorating conditions in Iraq, and growing fissures in an overconfident Republican Party. -- C (*Adapted from Library Journal*, ©2005)

50. West, Cornel.
Democracy matters : winning the fight against imperialism / Cornel West. Penguin Books, 2005. 229 p. 321.8 WES

In a sequel to his *Race Matters*, which he wrote over a decade ago, West looks at the waning of democratic energies and practices in the present age of the American empire. He describes a deeply troubling deterioration of democratic powers in the United States, and the rise of an ugly imperialism aided by an unholy alliance of the plutocratic elites and the Christian Right, and by a massive disaffection of voters who see too little difference between two parties. He argues that Americans must dip deep into the often-untapped wells of their democratic traditions to fight the imperialist strain and plutocratic impulse. -- M/ND (*Adapted from Book News, Inc.*, ©2005)

PSYCHOLOGY

51. Battin, M. Pabst.
Ending life : ethics and the way we die / Margaret Pabst Battin. Oxford University Press, 2005. 344 p. 179.7 BAT

Battin, one of the top philosophers working in area of bioethics, presents a beautifully written and wise collection of her writings that promises to become a benchmark in the end-of-life debates. The scope of the collection is remarkably wide including suicide prevention, AIDS, suicide bombing, serpent-handling and other religious practices that pose a risk of death, genetic prognostication, suicide in old age, and global justice as it relates to the "duty to die." The authoress appears to be in a dilemma between Seneca's view that death is a part of life that is under one's control and can be undertaken virtuously, and Aquinas's view that death is something that happens to one, which is outside of one's control

and something to be suffered. After careful examination of the two principles, she advocates in favor of Seneca but does not offer an official recipe. She also admits that Western culture has no common consensus on the issue. -- M

52. Cooper, Robert K.
Get out of your own way : the 5 keys to surpassing everyone's expectations / Robert K. Cooper. Crown Business, ©2006. 338 p. 158 COO

Get Out of Your Own Way is a page turner that addresses the complex issues of brain functionality in the light of scientific information and convincingly shows readers why their brains are pretty much the same model as their ancestors were using thousands of years ago. Cooper then illustrates how to shut off the unproductive parts of the brain and engage the helpful part of the brain so that one can accomplish what was always thought to be impossible. Cooper illustrates this seemingly complex issue in a witty, humorous, and approachable style. The book has a two-fold purpose. First, the readers must figure out their "open space goals." Second, they must realize their goals and in doing so, they must get out of their own way – that is they must gain control over their brain's ancient faculties and make it work in tandem with their efforts. Cooper offers five keys for exploring their full potential and triumphing over the realities of today's world. -- CH/M/ND

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

53. Jackson, Ellen B.
The worlds around us : a space voyage / Ellen Jackson; illustrated by Ron Miller. Millbrook Press, ©2007. 37 p. REF 523.2 JAC

Jackson uses an imaginary space voyage to introduce seven planets and four moons of the solar system to the budding space explorers. Each double-page spread offers a close-up photograph of a planet's surface, punctuated by a white cartoon-like drawing of fictional astronaut Jason visiting the planet. Sidebars, written as Jason's diary, provide an introduction to each planet's atmosphere, temperature, and weather. The book is an excellent first reference on space, including its bibliography, glossary and

web site references. Children interested in space would especially appreciate the volume. -- (For use only in the Library) ND

SOCIOLOGY

54. The declining significance of gender? / edited by Francine D. Blau, Mary C. Brinton, and David B. Grusky. Russell Sage Foundation, ©2006. 296 p. 331.4133 DEC

In the last half-century, women's position in the society has drastically changed. There have been substantial changes in the opportunities and rewards available to women in the workplace. Gender gap in terms of payments and remuneration has significantly narrowed. But at the same time some dimensions of gender inequality have been more resistant to the changes – for example the division of labor in the family. In this title, noted gender scholars in sociology and economics endeavor to make sense of the recent changes in gender inequality and attempt to forecast the trends. Several chapters ask whether political interventions might reduce or increase gender inequality, and others discuss whether a social ethos favoring egalitarianism is working to overcome generations of discriminatory treatment against women. Whatever is the future of gender inequality, the book definitely provides a wide-range analysis of the forces that are shaping the gender revolution and will provoke readers to ponder the issue. -- CH

55. Jacobson, Michael.
Downsizing prisons : how to reduce crime and end mass incarceration / Michael Jacobson. New York University Press, ©2005. 292 p. 364.6 JAC

The United States locks up more of its population than any other country in the world. There are over two million people incarcerated in U.S. prisons and jails – eight times the number in 1975. This increase can be greatly attributed to sentences for nonviolent drug and property offenses, which skyrocketed during the 1990s. Jacobson argues for changes in parole and probation agency operations, reductions in punitive sentencing, and the creation of drug treatment programs in lieu of prison sentences for low-level drug offenders. The premise here is to show how "the tremendous growth of incarceration over the past few decades relates directly to this country's

present difficulties in adequately funding its education and healthcare systems." Jacobson does an adequate job defending his belief that incarceration is not the only sentencing alternative. -- CH/M (Adapted from *Library Journal*, ©2005)

56. MacLean, Nancy.
Freedom is not enough : the opening of the American work place / Nancy MacLean. Harvard University Press, ©2006. 454 p. 331.133 MAC

This book focuses on America's struggle to achieve racial and sexual equality in the workplace. MacLean traces the profound changes in the workplace in the last 50 years – how the society has changed from the stage of exclusion of women and black and Latino men from higher-paying jobs to a stage where women and minorities are getting equal opportunities across the broad spectrum of the economy. Diversity in the workforce is a matter of pride today. This bold and groundbreaking work illustrates this transformation and reveals how African-American and later Mexican-American civil rights activists and feminists struggled to jobs at all levels in recognition of their full citizenship. Nancy MacLean, in this volume, weaves a powerful narrative to demonstrate the impact and magnitude of the Civil Rights Act and the movement for economic advancement that it fostered. -- CH

57. McWhorter, John H.
Winning the race : beyond the crisis in Black America / John McWhorter. Gotham Books, 2006. 434 p. 305.896 MCW

In this sequel to his 2000 bestseller *Losing the Race: Self-Sabotage in Black America*, McWhorter claims that racism is not the most daunting barrier to success for African-Americans. He states that the social behaviors attributed to some poor, inner-city blacks are rooted in cultural rather than economic causes. The author's thought-provoking, insightful investigation challenges such highly regarded academic sociologists as William Julius Wilson and Elijah Anderson, by arguing that welfare dependence and inner-city drug use and violence are not caused by a lack of accessible blue-collar jobs and white racism. Instead, McWhorter concludes, these forms of conduct are rooted in a culture of poverty that emerged in the mid-1960s and in what he calls "therapeutic alienation," which entices a minority of African-Americans to remain apart from mainstream society. Included here

are affirming narratives about the expansion of a vibrant suburban black middle class and about a greatly improved civil rights climate unavailable to African-Americans as recently as 30 years ago. This book energizes the continuing dialogue about racism in the United States. While acknowledging that racism still exists in America today, McWhorter argues that both blacks and whites must move past blaming racism for every challenge blacks face, and outlines the steps necessary for improving the future of black America. This provocative title concludes by outlining the steps that could be taken to ensure hope for the future of America. -- CH *(Adapted from Library Journal, ©2006)*

Author Index

Anderson, Chris, 3
Asimov, Janet, 42
Baker, Susan, 22
Barrett, Paul, 46
Battelle, John, 29
Battin, M. Pabst, 51
Beagle, Donald Robert, 30
Beard, Charles Austin, 36
Berman, Greg, 37
Bok, Derek Curtis, 20
Borgwardt, Elizabeth, 34
Braman, Sandra, 31
Breyer, Stephen G., 38
Burner, David, 47
Cohen, Rich, 25
Cooper, Anderson, 12
Cooper, Robert K., 52
Corburn, Jason, 23
Elahi, Ata, 32
Ervin, Clark Kent, 35
Fisher, Roger, 13
Furgurson, Ernest B., 26
Golde, Chris M., 21
Goldstein, Fred R., 14
Gottry, Steven R., 6
Howard, Philip N., 15
Isenstadt, Sandy, 1.
Jackson, Ellen B., 53
Jacobson, Michael, 55
Jeness, David, 2
Kapur, Devesh, 18
Lee, Yong S., 39
MacLean, Nancy, 56
Mann, Catherine L., 33
McWhorter, John H., 57
Melusky, Joseph Anthony, 40
Novak, Michael, 48
Pichaske, David R., 44
Reynolds, Glenn H., 16
Schramm, Carl J., 19

Sides, Hampton, 27
Spinner, Jackie, 17
Stout, Harry S., 28
Taylor, Andrew J., 49
Thaler, John, 10
Ulrich, David, 11
Weiner, Mark Stuart, 41
West, Cornel, 50

Title Index

Accelerating the globalization of
 America, 33
Active liberty, 38
American Islam, 46
An army of Davids, 16
Beyond reason, 13
Black trials, 41
Blood and thunder, 27
Career planning and succession
 management, 4
Change of state, 31
Classic American popular song, 2
Common sense business, 6
The contemporary Constitution, 40
Crossing over, 43
Data, network, and Internet
 communications technology, 32
The declining significance of
 gender?, 54
Democracy matters, 50
Discovering creative solutions to
 everyday challenges, 5
Dispatches from the edge, 12
Downsizing prisons, 55
The elements of small business, 10
Elephant's edge, 49
Ending life, 51
The entrepreneurial imperative, 19
Envisioning the future of doctoral
 education, 21

Freedom is not enough, 56
Freedom rising, 26
Get out of your own way, 52
Give us your best and brightest, 18
Good courts, 37
The great telecom meltdown, 14
The HR value proposition, 11
The information commons
handbook, 30
John F. Kennedy and a
new generation, 47
Leadership, 7
The long tail, 3
Managing yourself, 8
The modern American house, 1
A new deal for the world, 34
New media campaigns and the
managed citizen, 15
Notes for a memoir, 42
Open target, 35
Our underachieving colleges, 20
The poem that changed
America, 45
A reasonable public servant, 39
The results-driven manager, 9
Re-thinking green, 24
Rooted, 44
The search, 29
Street science, 23
The Supreme Court and the
Constitution, 36
Sustainable development, 22
Sweet and low, 25
Tell them I didn't cry, 17
Upon the altar of the nation, 28
Washington's God, 48
Winning the race, 57
The worlds around us, 53