2018

Encyclopedia of Human Rights in the United States, 3rd edition

Robert Tench
Old Dominion University, ftench@odu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.odu.edu/libraries_fac_pubs

Part of the Library and Information Science Commons

Repository Citation

Original Publication Citation

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the University Libraries at ODU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Libraries Faculty & Staff Publications by an authorized administrator of ODU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@odu.edu.

Scholarly communications impact consumers’ daily lives through news reports, newspaper and popular magazine articles, and discussions of social issues. Anderson (associate dean for collections & scholarly communication, J. Willard Marriott Lib., Univ. of Utah; Libraries, Leadership, and Scholarly Communication) provides a broad overview of these methods in a smoothly flowing Q&A format. Unlike John J. Regazzi’s Scholarly Communications: A History from Content as King to Content as Kingmaker, which took a historical approach, and Open Access and the Future of Scholarly Communication, edited by Kevin L. Smith and Katherine A. Dickson, which concentrated solely on open access, this volume delves into various academic publishing models (monographs, journal articles, white papers, theses and dissertations, etc.) while simultaneously addressing topics including peer review, ebooks, copyright, and more. VERDICT An excellent, cohesive work that will be invaluable to researchers, advanced undergraduates, and graduate students as well as faculty and staff needing to identify options to meet academia’s publication demands. Essential for academic libraries’ core collections.—Laurie Selwyn, formerly with Grayson Cty. Law Lib., Sherman, TX


With more than 100 full-color, often double-spread maps and a total of 187 illustrations, all with informative and detailed captions, this work from Black (history, Univ. of Exeter; Maps of War, Mapping Naval Warfare) traces the medieval background of mapmaking in Europe through the Renaissance and age of exploration, along with ideas about astrology and cosmology and advances in printmaking. The author expertly illustrates the state of cartography and knowledge of the world in England during the time of William Shakespeare (1564–1616), quoting his plays and sonnets when relevant. (Although there is little proof of which of these maps Shakespeare actually saw, word spread about them in British universities and educated circles and quickly came to be part of popular knowledge.) This title pairs well with Peter Whitfield’s Mapping Shakespeare’s World, which contains 54 maps and 102 paintings, portraits, and other illustrations and focuses more on the plays themselves. Despite these similarities, which might cause confusion, the titles are complementary. In Whitfield’s work, maps detail the plays; in Black’s, the plays and sonnets illuminate the maps, and both bring to Shakespeare readers and scholars new knowledge, insight, and delight.


First released as Human Rights in the United States: A Dictionary and Documents, then An Encyclopedia of Human Rights in the United States, this latest edition differs in editorship, arrangement, and, at times, content. Although Condé (formerly Trinity Law Sch., CA) has been the primary editor for all three editions, here he collaborates with educator and international human rights advocate Gelsinger. In contrast to the second edition, which consisted of formal sections for terms, primary documents, and an index, this new work brings all of its data into 23 topical chapters and adds 500 pages of fresh material. Although the well-regarded 48-page overview essay from the previous edition is not included, an excellent eight-page introduction and user’s guide remain. Each chapter begins with a leader page that summarizes the chapter, followed by quotes and key text excerpts that capture differing perspectives, a “what you should know” guide, and a primary source documents section. Designed as a tool to help readers learn about U.S. laws, policies, procedures, opinions, and records within international and related law arenas, the work is primarily aimed at students and educators at the high school level and up, although those with some background on the subject will get the most out of this comprehensive set. One quibble is that the font size used in the essays is small and difficult to read. However, researchers in need of a resource that focuses on U.S. human rights as opposed to a global approach will find this work extremely useful. VERDICT Changes in organization of material as well as lots of additional content justify close consideration for libraries that own the previous editions. For those without the earlier volumes, this works as a go-to resource on the topic.—Rob Tench, Old Dominion Univ. Libs., Norfolk, VA

From copyright law and metadata to Shakespeare & cartography to global human rights issues. Designed as a tool to help readers learn about U.S. laws, policies, procedures, opinions, and records within international and related law arenas, the work is primarily aimed at students and educators at the high school level and up, although those with some background on the subject will get the most out of this comprehensive set. One quibble is that the font size used in the essays is small and difficult to read. However, researchers in need of a resource that focuses on U.S. human rights as opposed to a global approach will find this work extremely useful. VERDICT Changes in organization of material as well as lots of additional content justify close consideration for libraries that own the previous editions. For those without the earlier volumes, this works as a go-to resource on the topic.—Rob Tench, Old Dominion Univ. Libs., Norfolk, VA