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## Book Review - Multimedia Encyclopedia of Women in Today's World, (M.Z. Stange, C.K. Oyster, & J. Sloan (Eds.), Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, 2011)

Amanda J. Swygart-Hobaugh M.L.S., Ph.D.  
Georgia State University, [aswygarthobaugh@gsu.edu](mailto:aswygarthobaugh@gsu.edu)

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cited material in its own collections. *Women in the United States Military* is a solid reference work, useful in itself as a historical survey, and is highly recommended for both research and general collections.

[Susan Bennett White is the sociology librarian at Princeton University Library, where she provides materials and research support for the programs in gender studies. She has been a senior research librarian at Princeton for more than twenty-five years.]

## MODERN WOMEN

Mary Zeiss Stange & Carol K. Oyster, eds., & Jane Sloan, multimedia ed., *THE MULTIMEDIA ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WOMEN IN TODAY'S WORLD*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, 2011. bibl. index. glossary. Electronic, \$650.00, e-ISBN 978-1412976862. (Hardcover, *The Encyclopedia of Women in Today's World*, 4 vols., \$495.00, ISBN 978-1412976855.)

Reviewed by Amanda Swygart-Hobaugh

With entries that run the gamut from entertainer Lady Gaga to Egyptian women's rights activist Engy Ayman Ghozlan, from female action heroes to drag kings, and from international abortion laws to the Campaign for Female Education in Africa, this extensive reference work lives up to its title, offering a whirlwind journey around the globe for a sweeping glance at women in today's world.

The online version of this encyclopedia is accessible and easily navigable. The editors organized the approximately 1,000 entries into fifteen browsable Reader's Guide categories: "Activism in Theory and Practice"; "Arts"; "Business, Commerce, and Economics"; "Countries"; "Educa-

tion"; "Environment"; "Government/Law and Justice"; "Health: Mental and Physical"; "Media/Popular Culture"; "Religion"; "Science and Technology"; "Sports and Recreation"; "Sexualities"; "War and Conflict"; and "Women's Lives." Within these categories are a range of entry types; for example, the 110 "Health" entries include "Abortion, Access to," "Body Image," "Chastity Pledges," "Female Genital Surgery, Geographical Distribution," "HIV/AIDS: Africa," and "Signal Biography: Suleman, Nadia 'Octomom.'" Entries range from 450 to 3,500 words. More than 400 contributors, all women's and gender studies scholars, have written concise, thorough, and readable synopses that should be readily accessible to the proposed audience of "simply casual readers looking for some reliable information on a particular subject, or students or scholars commencing research for some specific project" (p. viii). Each entry includes a "Further Readings" section, with typically four but up to ten suggested books, articles, and Web resources.

The online version's browsability is significantly enhanced by the hyperlinked cross-references in each entry. Ninety-nine video clips — browsable in the "Multimedia Library" but also embedded in applicable entries — and hundreds of photo images enhance the reader's experience. Multimedia editor Jane Sloan is to be commended for the variety of clips she selected: from news to Lady Gaga performance snippets, they aptly supplement the text. Other added features include a chronology that marks milestones in the achievement of legal, political, and reproductive rights for women around the world as well as individual women's successes in politics, athletics, literature, and the entertainment industry; a resource guide of recommended books, academic journals, and Web resources; a glossary; a hyperlinked subject index;

and an appendix containing the *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action* from the United Nations 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women. Finally, two online supplements will be published in 2012 and 2014, adding 500 more entries to the work.

I would recommend this online encyclopedia for reference collections geared primarily toward undergraduate students, as it is a wonderful jumping-off point for their exploration of the diverse opportunities and challenges facing women in today's world.

[Amanda Swygart-Hobaugh is the librarian for sociology, anthropology, and gerontology at Georgia State University.]

## SEX WORK

Melissa Hope Ditmore, *PROSTITUTION AND SEX WORK*. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood/ABC-CLIO, 2011. (Historical guides to controversial issues in America.) 201p. append. bibl. index. \$55.00, ISBN 978-0313362897.

Reviewed by Jeanne Armstrong

Author Melissa Hope Ditmore also wrote the two-volume *Encyclopedia of Prostitution and Sex Work*, which, although it deals with the same overall topic as this shorter historical guide, differs from it in a number of respects. The encyclopedia's coverage is international, while the historical guide concentrates on prostitution and sex work in America. The encyclopedia has multiple entries arranged in alphabetical order, while the historical guide is organized into nine topical chapters: "Venues"; "Personnel"; "Legal Frameworks"; "Morality, Money, and Prostitution Prior to the Criminalization of Prostitution"; "Red Light, Green Light"; "The

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