Less Medicine, More Health
7 Assumptions That Drive Too Much Medical Care
H. Gilbert Welch MD

ON SALE: 3/3/2015

SUMMARY

The author of the highly acclaimed Overdiagnosed describes seven widespread assumptions that encourage excessive, often ineffective, and sometimes harmful medical care.

To maintain a healthy lifestyle, the US Department of Health and Human Services advises the public to “eat smart, exercise regularly, and get routine health screenings.” And that is absolutely correct—except for the checkup part. The American public has been sold the idea that seeking medical care is one of the most important steps to maintaining wellness. Surprisingly, medical care is not, in fact, well correlated with good health. The major determinants of health exist outside individual medical care.

Dr. Gilbert Welch pushes against established wisdom, and suggests that medical care may be too aggressive. From his twenty-five years of medical practice and research, Welch explains that excessive medical care is often powered by economics and lawyers. But American medical care would not exist in this state if the general public did not harbor powerful assumptions about the value of tests and treatments - a number of which are just plain wrong.

KEY POINTS

- DR. WELCH'S PREVIOUS BOOK, OVERDIAGNOSED, SOLD OVER 26,000 COPIES along with rights for nine foreign language translations.
- DR. WELCH IS A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED EXPERT in this field. He regularly contributes opinion pieces to the New York Times, Los Angeles Times, and CNN. He has also published articles in the Wall Street Journal, Boston Globe, and Washington Post, and has appeared on Today twice, CNN, NPR's All Things Considered, CBC Radio, and ABC's The Health Report. Discover magazine did a feature on Dr. Welch, and USA Today, CBS News, ABC News, and Fox News have all interviewed him.
- BOTH DATA-DRIVEN AND ANECDOTAL, this book is incredibly user-friendly. Welch's first book, Should I Be Tested for Cancer?, was named one of the six "best books" by Malcolm Gladwell in the Week.

AUTHOR BIO

Dr. H. Gilbert Welch is an academic physician, a professor at Dartmouth Medical School, and a nationally recognized expert on the effects of medical testing. He has been published in the Los Angeles Times, New York Times, Washington Post, and Wall Street Journal, and has appeared on Today. In 2009, he received the Under Secretary’s Award for Outstanding Achievement in Health Services Research.

Residence: Thetford, VT Hometown: Thetford, VT
Detained and Deported
Stories of Immigrant Families Under Fire
Margaret Regan

ON SALE: 3/10/2015

SUMMARY
An intimate look at the people ensnared by the US detention and deportation system, the largest in the world.

The United States is detaining and deporting undocumented immigrants at an unprecedented rate. Thousands languish in immigration detention centers, separated from their families, sometimes for years. Deportees are dropped off unceremoniously in sometimes dangerous Mexican border towns or flown back to crime-ridden Central American nations. Many of the deported have lived here for years and have US-citizen children; despite the possibly dire consequences, many cross the border again.

Using volatile Arizona as a case study, journalist Margaret Regan conjures up the harshness of the detention centers hidden away in the countryside and travels to Mexico to report on the fate of deportees stranded far from their families in the United States. Drawing on Regan's interviews with mothers and fathers locked up in detention or trapped on the other side of the border, Detained and Deported is a humanizing and rare glimpse into the lives of those caught up in the US immigration enforcement cycle. Giving special attention to the separation of families and the treatment of women, Regan demonstrates that increasingly draconian detention and deportation policies have broadened police powers and enriched an industry whose profits are derived from human incarceration.

KEY POINTS

- SEASONED JOURNALIST—a prolific award-winning journalist, Regan has spent over a decade reporting from the Arizona/Mexico border.
- FIRSTHAND ACCOUNTS AND EYEWITNESS REPORTING invite readers into the complex immigration debate by highlighting the human dimension of the issue.
- OFFERS RARE GLIMPSE of US immigration enforcement cycle from detention to deportation including a rarely seen look at Eloy, the third largest detention center, and the rough border communities where deportees are dropped off.

Praise for The Death of Josseline
"This book should be required reading for everyone--from President Obama and the director of Homeland Security to the Border Patrol agents, the vigilantes, and migrant rights activists. If people on both sides of the immigration issue picked up this book instead of arms, we would come to a peaceful resolution; it gave me inspiration."
--Sandra Cisneros, author of The House on Mango Street

AUTHOR BIO

Margaret Regan (Tucson, AZ) is arts editor and writer for the Tucson Weekly and the author of The Death of Josseline: Immigration Stories from the Arizona Borderlands (Beacon Press, 2010), a 2010 Southwest Book of the Year and a Common Read for the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations. A longtime journalist in Arizona, Regan has won dozens of awards for her reporting and in 2013 was named winner of the Al Filipov Peace and Justice Award for her writing on immigration.

Residence: Tucson, AZ Hometown: Philadelphia, PA
Dreamers
An Immigrant Generation's Fight for Their American Dream
Eileen Truax

ON SALE: 3/10/2015

SUMMARY

Dreamers is a movement book for the generation brought to the United States as children—and now fighting to live here legally.

Of the roughly twelve million undocumented immigrants living in the US, as many as two million came as children. They grow up here, going to elementary, middle and high school and then the country they call home won't (in most states) offer financial aid for college and they're unable to be legally employed. In 2001, Senator Dick Durbin introduced the DREAM Act to Congress, which would allow these young people to become legal residents if they met certain requirements. And now, over ten years later, in the face of Congressional inertia and furious opposition from some, the DREAM Act has yet to be passed. In recent years, this young generation has begun organizing, fighting for their legal right to live here and with their rallying cry—"Undocumented, Unapologetic, and Unafraid"—they are the newest face of the human rights movement. In Dreamers, Eileen Truax illuminates the stories of these young men and women who are living proof of a complex and sometimes hidden political reality, which calls into question what it truly means to be an American.

KEY POINTS

- FIRST OF ITS KIND--The first book to approach the subject from the perspective of the Dreamers themselves.

- ENGAGING HUMAN ANGLE--Truax's compelling and accessible narrative highlights different aspects of the Dreamer movement. Characters include Nancy Landa, a twenty-nine-year-old professional in California, who left for work one morning and found herself deported in Tijuana before the day was done; thirteen undocumented protestors who stage a sit in and risk deportation in Alabama; and Mo Abollahi, the charismatic, Iranian-born leader of Dream Activist.

AUTHOR BIO

Originally from Mexico, Eileen Truax is a journalist and a migrant currently living in Los Angeles. She writes a column for Huffington Post's Voices blog, "Si muero lejos de ti" (If I die far from you), and speaks at colleges and universities about the Dream movement and immigration.

Residence: Sun Valley, CA Hometown: Mexico City, Mexico
A God That Could Be Real
Spirituality, Science, and the Future of Our Planet
Nancy Abrams
Forewords: Archbishop Desmond Tutu & Paul Davies

ON SALE: 3/10/2015

SUMMARY

A blend of science, religion, and philosophy for agnostic, spiritual-but-not-religious, and scientifically minded readers, as well as those interested in theories of emergence and complexity.

Is it possible to find spiritual meaning while still being rigorously scientific? Nancy Abrams, a science policy lawyer, a one-time atheist, and co-author of two books on contemporary cosmology, determined that yes, it is possible -- but we have to change the way we think of God. The question to ask, she shows us, isn't "Does God exist?" but "Could anything exist in the scientific universe that is worthy of being called God?" In this paradigm-shifting book she examines both what God can't be and what a real God could be like. Connecting the desire for spiritual connection to the cutting-edge science of complexity, Abrams argues that religion is an emergent phenomenon, like economics: it's something that emerges from humanity, but that has its own reality. The way of thinking about God that Abrams describes can be comforting, awe-inspiring, empowering -- and in harmony with science.

KEY POINTS

- CONNECTS NEW SCIENTIFIC IDEAS TO SPIRITUAL YEARNING: Abrams incorporates the burgeoning cosmological research that is reshaping our understanding of the universe and our place in it. Readers interested in the human implications of complexity theory and of contemporary cosmology will find endless food for thought in this book.

- GIFTED PUBLIC SPEAKER: Abrams has the rare talent of being able to explain complex science to a non-scientific readership. For her work making science humanly meaningful, she was awarded the 2012 Rustum Roy Spirit Award by the Deepak Chopra Foundation. See bio and TEDX Santa Cruz presentation: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e2qoKR78a6s

- PARADIGM SHIFTING: Abrams is not talking about reconciling science and religion. Instead, she reframes the question. She is not asking "Does God exist?" but, rather, "Could anything exist in the universe that's worthy of being called God?"

AUTHOR BIO

Nancy Ellen Abrams is the co-author, with world-renowned cosmologist (and her husband) Joel R. Primack, of The View from the Center of the Universe: Discovering Our Extraordinary Place in the Cosmos and The New Universe and the Human Future: How a Shared Cosmology Could Transform the World. She has a B.A. in the history and philosophy of science from the University of Chicago, a law degree from the University of Michigan, and a diploma in Mexican law and international trade from the Escuela Libre de Derecho in Mexico City, and she was a Fulbright Scholar and a Woodrow Wilson Designate. Over the past ten years, Abrams and Primack have given many invited talks on themes from The View from the Center of the Universe not only at universities but at planetariums, cultural centers, conferences, churches, and temples. In their attempt to bring science to the public, they have spoken at venues from the State of the World Forum in New York and the Senate Chamber of France to the North American Montessori Teachers Association and the Cornelia Street Café in New York.

Residence: Santa Cruz, CA Hometown: Elizabeth, NJ
The New Wild
Why Invasive Species Will Be Nature's Salvation
Fred Pearce

ON SALE: 4/7/2015

SUMMARY

A provocative book for environmentalists and popular science readers, as well as anyone concerned with the ecological impacts of climate change.

The New Wild argues that we need to rethink conservation and restoration for the 21st century. Conservation doesn't mean manning the barricades to keep out interlopers and restoring a perfectly balanced ecosystem. Rather than fighting a losing battle to protect what we imagine to be pristine, we need to encourage nature's rebirth by celebrating the species that are most able to adapt -- invasive species. Veteran environmental journalist Fred Pearce offers a paradigm-shifting exploration of the "new ecologists" who believe that alien species aren't the scourge they're usually considered and that, instead, their success is a sign of nature's strength. In an era in which humans have affected every inch of the planet through globalization and climate change, there are no undisturbed ecosystems -- most are a mixture of native and alien, and most get along just fine. To be an environmentalist in the 21st century is to embrace nature's wildness and capacity for change.

KEY POINTS

- NEWSWORTHY: Stories of non-native species abound, from the fearsome Asian carp to invasive bees and ants. With increasing global trade and climate change, alien species are turning up in new regions, causing widespread public interest and costing the federal government at least $100 million per year. There's even a National Invasive Species Awareness Week (Feb. 23-28 this year).
- OPTIMISTIC: The New Wild provides an antidote to the usual doom-and-gloom scenarios surrounding invasive species.
- WELL-KNOWN WRITER: Pearce is a veteran, award-winning journalist. His first Beacon book, When Rivers Run Dry sold 45,000 in all formats and was used in several FYE programs. His second, With Speed and Violence, sold 9,600 in HC.
- COVERS A WIDE RANGE OF INVASIVE SPECIES: From black rats, dandelions, Zebra Mussels, Kudzu, Water hyacinth, Tamarix, Burmese python, Snakefish, Brazilian pepper-tree, Giant hogweed and Wild boar.

AUTHOR BIO

Fred Pearce is an award-winning author and journalist based in London. He has reported on environment, science, and development issues from sixty-seven countries over the past twenty years. Environment consultant at New Scientist since 1992, he also writes regularly for the Guardian newspaper and Yale University's prestigious e360 website. Pearce was voted UK Environment Journalist of the Year in 2001 and CGIAR agricultural research journalist of the year in 2002, and won a lifetime achievement award from the Association of British Science Writers in 2011. His many books include With Speed and Violence, Confessions of an Eco-Sinner, The Coming Population Crash, When the Rivers Run Dry, and The Land Grabbers.

Residence: London Hometown: Faversham, UK
Course Correction
A Story of Rowing and Resilience in the Wake of Title IX
Ginny Gilder
ON SALE: 4/14/2015

SUMMARY

Wild meets The Boys in the Boat, a memoir about the quest for Olympic gold and triumph of love over fear, set against the backdrop of Title IX.

Ginny grew up in an era where girls mostly stayed on the sidelines in the gym—as observers and cheerleaders, not competitors and champions. Raised in a family where business acumen was treasured as the ultimate trophy, she toed the line of her father's expectations. To Ginny, that meant the pursuit of academic excellence. However, her operating assumptions changed nearly overnight in 1975, as a freshman at Yale when she discovered rowing. From her first strokes as a novice, Ginny found herself in a new world. At Yale, she trained with two Olympic rowers and participated in the famous Title IX naked protest, which helped mold the future of women's crew and helped define the Title IX movement.

Course Correction recounts the physical and psychological barriers Ginny overcame as she transformed into an elite athlete who reached the highest echelon of her sport. Taking place against the backdrop of unprecedented cultural change, Ginny's story personalizes the impact of Title IX, demonstrating the life-changing lessons learned in sports far beyond the athletic fields of play. Her journey wends its way to the Olympic podium in 1984, carries her through family tragedy, strengthens her to face her own demons and truths, and ultimately frees her to live her life despite her persistent fear of loss.

KEY POINTS

- TRANSCENDS SPORTS GENRE Not just a sports memoir, this story lends the lessons of rowing to life. Unlike scholarly treatments of title IX and gender in sports—where stories of athletes are told from the outside in—this poignant and introspective account is inspiring without being overly sentimental, trite, or predictable.

- UNIQUE PLATFORM Ginny Gilder is an appealing speaker and figure in the sports and business community. She's the co-owner of the Seattle Storm, founding partner of a successful investment firm, former Olympic athlete, and a founder of Washington Works, a nonprofit that supports women on welfare to prepare for the workplace.

AUTHOR BIO

Ginny Gilder is an Olympic silver medalist in rowing, the founder and CEO of an investment business, and co-owner of the Seattle Storm (winners of two WNBA Championships and one of the few woman-owned professional sports franchises in the country). She is a member of the WNBA's Board of Governors, helped establish The Gilder Boathouse at her alma mater, Yale University, and is a recognized community leader in Seattle, her home base for thirty years. The mother of three children and stepmother of two, Ginny lives with her wife, Lynn, and their two poodles in Seattle's Capitol Hill. This is her first book.

Residence: Seattle, WA Hometown: New York, NY
Celebrity Detox
How the Famous Sell Us Elixirs of Health, Beauty, and Happiness
Timothy Caulfield

ON SALE: 5/5/2015

SUMMARY

An exploration of the effects our celebrity-dominated culture has on our ideas of living the good life.

Our perceptions of beauty, health, success, and happiness are framed by a popular culture that is increasingly disconnected from reality. This isn't just a hyperbolic assertion. Research tells us that our health decisions and goals are influenced by both celebrity culture and celebrity endorsements, our children's ambitions are now overwhelmingly governed by the fantasy of fame, and, the ideals of beauty and success are mediated through a celebrity-dominated worldview. The celebrity brand is at once the most desired state of being (modern day royalty!) and one of the most socially problematic. Health law and policy researcher Timothy Caulfield provides a fun look into the celebrity world, including interesting facts and anecdotes, and a boatload of practical and evidence-based advice on everything from diet, skin care, and colon cleanses to detoxing from our celebrity ambitions. Caulfield tries out for American Idol, has a professional makeover, and endures the Gwyneth Paltrow endorsed cleanse in this thoroughly unique, engaging, and provocative book.

KEY POINTS

- HE WORKS FREQUENTLY WITH THE POPULAR PRESS, and his work has appeared in a wide range of publications, including Time, Newsweek, Wired, National Geographic, and Scientific American. He frequently appears on TV and radio.
- HE HAS PUBLISHED IN THE WORLD’S TOP SCIENCE JOURNALS, including Science, Cell, the Lancet, Nature, and Biotechnology.
- A PROMINENT ACADEMIC AND HEALTH-AND-FITNESS ENTHUSIAST himself, Caulfield writes from experience and with great humor.

AUTHOR BIO

Timothy Caulfield is a Chair in Health Law and Policy and a Professor in the Faculty of Law and the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta. He has won numerous academic awards, publishes frequently in the popular press, and been involved with a number of national and international policy and research ethics committees. He is the author of The Cure for Everything: Untangling Twisted Messages About Health, Fitness and Happiness.

Residence: Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Holding Fast to Dreams
Empowering Youth from the Civil Rights Crusade to STEM Achievement
Freeman A. Hrabowski III

ON SALE: 5/5/2015

SUMMARY

Education leader Freeman Hrabowski relates his experiences with the civil rights movement in Birmingham as a child, his development as a leader in higher education, and the ways these experiences led to the development of programs and policies supporting inclusive excellence and educational success for African Americans.

When Freeman Hrabowski was 12 years old, a new preacher visited his Birmingham, Alabama church and spoke about a children's march for civil rights. That preacher was Martin Luther King, Jr., and that march changed Freeman's life. Until then, his main interests were food and math, but he convinced his parents that he needed to answer this call. Leading younger children in the march and comforting them during their 5 terrifying nights in jail, Freeman began a lifelong fight for justice. The struggle for justice led him to become a champion for education and brought him from Birmingham to Baltimore, where he is the 20-year president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and has developed the most successful program in the US for educating African Americans who go on to earn MDs and PhDs in the sciences.

KEY POINTS

- NATIONAL RECOGNITION: Hrabowski has been named one of TIME's 100 Most Influential People in the World (2012) and one of America's best leaders by U.S. News & World Report. He was recently named by President Obama to chair the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for African Americans, and the Meyerhoff Scholars Program has been named a national model by the National Science Foundation and the New York Times.
- COMPELLING PERSONAL NARRATIVE: Hrabowski is truly an eyewitness to history, having heard Martin Luther King, Jr., preach in Birmingham; going to school with one of the girls killed in the 16th Street Baptist Church bombing; and participating in the boycotts and civil disobedience of 1963. He draws on his experiences as a leader in the Children's March and he explains the important role that education played in his family and community.

AUTHOR BIO

Dr. Freeman A. Hrabowski is President of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, a position he has held since 1992. He previously chaired the National Academies’ committee that wrote Expanding Underrepresented Minority Participation: America's Science and Technology Talent at the Crossroads. He received TIAA-CREF's Theodore M. Hesburgh Award for Leadership Excellence (2011), the Carnegie Corporation's Academic Leadership Award (2011), and the Heinz Award (2012) for contributions to improving the "Human Condition." Dr. Hrabowski is a recognized leader and innovator in higher education and has been a pioneer in developing successful programs that educate African Americans who go on to earn doctorates in the natural sciences and engineering.

Residence: Baltimore, MD Hometown: Birmingham, AL
Love's Promises
How Formal and Informal Contracts Shape All Kinds of Families
Martha M. Ertman

ON SALE: 5/26/2015

SUMMARY
Blends memoir and legal cases to show how contracts can create family relationships.

In Love's Promises law professor Martha Ertman delves into the legal cases, anecdotes, and history of family law to show that love comes in different packages—each shaped by different contracts—that family law should and sometimes does recognize. Beginning with Ertman's own story about becoming one of two moms and a dad raising a child, she then shows that many people—straight and gay, married and single, related by adoption or genetics—use contracts to shape relationships. These contracts and deals can be big, like vows of fidelity, or small, like “I cook and you clean.” But regardless of scope, these deals can create, sustain, and modify family relationships.

KEY POINTS

- ACCESSIBLE AND INFORMATIVE, author's user-friendly personal approach will appeal to readers interested in same-sex marriage, reproductive technologies, adoption, and cohabitation.
- OFFERING FRESH IDEAS ABOUT FAMILY, this book shows how people routinely contract in and out of parenthood, marriage, and other relationships, allowing readers to rethink their own family experiences.
- PRACTICAL GUIDE includes appendix with sample contract.

"At a time of dramatic transformations in Americans' family lives, Love's Promises offers unique insights into how to manage diverse intimate arrangements. Blending vivid personal memoir with legal analysis, Ertman makes a compelling case for why, when, and how contracts can enhance loving relationships. A pioneering book that should be read by all those concerned with current and future families."

--Viviana A. Zelizer, Lloyd Cotsen '50 Professor of Sociology at Princeton University, and author of The Purchase of Intimacy and Economic Lives

AUTHOR BIO

Martha Ertman is a law professor at the University of Maryland Carey Law School and has specialized in family law for two decades. She lives in Washington, D.C. with her family.

Residence: Washington, D.C. Hometown: Boston, MA
A scientist and former evangelical argues that biblical literalism and belief in the historical Adam has contributed to the intellectual isolation of evangelical Christians.

In the world of evangelical Christianity, a controversy is roiling over the historical Adam. Professors have been fired from evangelical colleges for openly questioning the historicity of Adam, and NIH head Francis Collins has also come under fire. Karl Giberson is at the heart of this controversy, as a born-and-raised evangelical who was also a physics professor, and had long been known for his outspoken position that it was possible to be a Christian and to accept the truth of evolution. In *Saving the Original Sinner*, Giberson tells the story of the evolution of the idea of Adam and explores how, throughout the centuries, we have created Adam in our own image to explain and justify our behavior. He takes readers through the Adam of the pre-Christian era, the Adam of St. Paul, Augustine and the Medievals, the Adam of the early explorers and geologists, and the Adam—or absence of Adam—of the both contemporary science and young earth creationists. He shows how the story of the fall has influenced Western ideas about sexuality, gender, and race, and explains how literalists have struggled to incorporate scientific discoveries into their readings of Genesis. He then traces the history of evangelical Protestantism through the 19th and 20th centuries to show how preserving the biblical story of creation in the face of mounting evidence to the contrary contributes to evangelicals’ intellectual isolation.

**KEY POINTS**

- **COMPREHENSIVE AND ORIGINAL:** This is the first book to explore how the story of Adam and Eve has evolved and influenced Western civilization throughout the centuries.
- **CONTROVERSIAL:** Conservative evangelicals are sure to challenge Giberson for questioning the historicity of Adam.
- **A FORMER "INSIDER":** A born-and-raised evangelical, Giberson taught at an evangelical college from 1984 to 2011. As a former insider in this world, he is well-placed to wrest conservative Christianity away from fundamentalism.
- **APPEAL TO NON-EVANGELICALS:** Giberson offers a rare glimpse at the inner logic of the world of literalist Christianity for those of us on the outside who are nonetheless affected by the political clout of conservative evangelicals.

**AUTHOR BIO**

**Karl W. Giberson** teaches science and religion at Stonehill College and is a leading voice in America’s creation/evolution controversy. He has spoken at many venues, including the Vatican, Oxford University, and London’s Thomas More Institute. He has written ten books and hundreds of articles, reviews, and essays. His books include *Oracles of Science: Celebrity Scientists Versus God and Religion*, with the late Mariano Artigas; *Saving Darwin*, a *Washington Post* “Best Book of 2008”; and *The Anointed: Evangelical Truth in a Secular Age*, with Randall Stephens. He blogs at the *Huffington Post*.

**Residence:** Hingham, MA  
**Hometown:** Bath, New Brunswick, Canada
Project Fatherhood
A Story of Courage and Healing in One of America's Toughest Communities
Jorja Leap

ON SALE: 6/9/2015

SUMMARY

The story of an anthropologist and a former gang leader who come together to address the question, “How do you be a good father when you never had one?”

In 2010, former gang leader turned community activist Big Mike Cummings asked UCLA gang expert Jorja Leap to co-lead a group of men who are struggling to be better fathers despite having grown up fatherless. These men, black and Latino, teenagers to men in their 50s, most formerly incarcerated, are trying to build their identities as fathers, connect with their children, and heal their community.

Project Fatherhood follows the lives of the men who meet each week as they struggle with the pain of not having had a father, the chronic pressures of poverty and unemployment, and the unquenchable desire to do better and provide more for the next generation. Through immersion into the lived experiences of those struggling to overcome their circumstances, Jorja Leap provides not only dramatic stories of fathers trying to do the right thing, but a larger sociological portrait of how institutional injustices become manifest in the lives of ordinary people. And while she provides no silver-bullet policy prescription, readers witness real movement towards solutions as the men find support in each other, and in their shared goal of healing their families and keeping their children out of the “cradle to prison pipeline.”

KEY POINTS

- Fatherhood is a topic of national importance: From Bill Clinton’s 1995 Responsible Fatherhood Initiative to President Obama’s 2010 Fatherhood and Mentoring Initiative (see www.fatherhood.gov), public policy that strengthens fatherhood has been identified as a preventive for child abuse, domestic violence, and gang activity. Project Fatherhood has been recognized by Obama as a “model program.”
- Prominent expert: Jorja Leap was named on of Los Angeles Magazine’s “Action Heroes” for her work with gangs, and her previous book, Jumped In, was covered in LA Magazine, Zocalo Public Square, and The San Francisco Book Review. She is frequently asked to comment on gang-related issues.
- Fathers will be part of promotion: Big Mike and others from Project Fatherhood have agreed to accompany Jorja for media appearances.
- Leap will donate all proceeds to Project Fatherhood.

AUTHOR BIO

Jorja Leap has been on the faculty of the University of California at Los Angeles Department of Social Welfare since 1992. A recognized expert in gangs, violence, and crisis intervention, she has worked nationally and internationally in violent and postwar settings. Dr. Leap is currently the senior policy advisor on Gangs and Youth Violence for the Los Angeles County Sheriff.

Residence: Santa Monica, CA Hometown: Inglewood, CA
One Righteous Man
Samuel Battle and the Shattering of the Color Line in New York
Arthur Browne

ON SALE: 6/30/2015

SUMMARY

A sweeping history of Harlem and African Americans in New York City in the early 1900s, through the two world wars, the depression, the black diaspora, and into the early 60s, told through the life and times of Samuel Battle, the first black man hired by the NYPD.

When Samuel Battle walked the beat as New York City's first African-American cop, he had to fear his racist colleagues as much as the criminal element, and to navigate the politics of Tammany Hall and of powerful mobsters. By the time he left the NYPD, he was decorated and revered, having hob-nobbed over those years with the likes of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, Booker T. Washington, and dozens of other luminaries. Battle mentored a young race man, Wesley Williams, leading him to be the first black member of the New York Fire Department. Wesley faced the same brutal treatment from his colleagues, including being left for dead in a burning warehouse. During that time, by integrating public services and making important inroads in integrating the armed forces of the nation, New York had changed dramatically through the Harlem renaissance and its collapse, two World Wars, and the tumultuous beginning of the civil rights movement.

Battle commissioned a biography, to be written by none other than Langston Hughes. However, the 80,000 word book failed to find a publisher, and has remained entirely unpublished since. Using Hughes's manuscript, which is quoted liberally throughout this book, as well as his own archival research and extensive interviews with survivors, prize winning journalist Arthur Browne has created a fascinating and important narrative of these unheralded figures in the fight for civil rights, a fascinating episode in the life of Langston Hughes, and a riveting account of the insider politics and the battle for influence in 20th century New York.

KEY POINTS

- EARLY ENDORSEMENT FROM KEN BURNS, author of The Civil War, Baseball, and The National Parks

- LANGSTON HUGHES CONNECTION, this may be the only appearance of parts of an 80,000 word manuscript written by Hughes

"...a magnificent -- and moving -- job of rescuing the story of the first black New York City cop, a man named Sam Battle, from the dust heap of history." - Ken Burns

AUTHOR BIO

Arthur Browne is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and newspaper editor who has written the first-draft history of New York for more than forty years. Starting as a copyboy and rising to Senior Managing Editor of the New York Daily News, Browne has covered America's largest city from its streets and police stations to its corridors of political and financial power. As a reporter and editor, he has chronicled six mayors, from Abe Beame through Bill de Blasio, and co-authored I Koch, a biography of Mayor Ed Koch. Browne presently serves as the Daily News Editorial Page Editor. In 2007, he led a team that won the Pulitzer Prize for editorials that documented the epidemic illnesses afflicting thousands of 9/11 rescue and recovery workers.

Enabling Acts
The Hidden Story of How the Americans with Disabilities Act Gave the Largest US Minority Its Rights
Lennard Davis

ON SALE: 7/14/2015

SUMMARY
The first major book on the history and impact of the ADA—the "eyes on the prize" moment for disability rights.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is the widest ranging piece of civil rights legislation ever passed in the history of the United States, and it has become the model for most civil rights laws around the world. The untold story behind the Act is anything but a dry account of bills and speeches. Rather, it's a fascinating story of how a group of leftist Berkeley hippies managed to make an alliance with upper-crust, conservative Republicans to bring about a truly bipartisan bill.

In this engaging account, acclaimed disability scholar Lennard J. Davis tells the behind-the-scenes and on the ground story of an often forgotten or ignored civil rights fight while illustrating the successes and shortcomings of the ADA in areas ranging from employment, education, and transportation to shifting social attitudes. Published for the 25th anniversary of the ADA, this book promises to powerfully ignite readers in a discussion of disability rights in America.

KEY POINTS
- 25th ANNIVERSARY TIE-IN. Published for the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (July 26, 2015), the book will play a central role in the celebration efforts put on by the ADA Legacy project, an organization that seeks to "preserve, celebrate, and educate," and other disability rights groups.
- NARRATIVE APPROACH. In the tradition of books like And the Band Played On, the impact and legacy of the ADA is assessed through the compelling stories of people affected by the legislation.
- BEHIND-THE-SCENES AND INSIDER ACCESS. Davis traveled across the country, interviewing activists and politicians like Senators Bob Dole and Tom Harken, who were influential in ushering in the law.
- CRITICAL LOOK. A pro-disability book, it details how the Act hasn't gone far enough in terms of employment (80 percent of disabled people are still unemployed) and in terms of implementation. AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR. Lennard J. Davis has written influential books on disability that are already canonized in the field of disability studies, and he is a frequent commentator on disability issues.

"To adequately understand and celebrate this landmark legislation, Enabling Acts is a must-read."--Senator Bob Dole

AUTHOR BIO
An award-winning author of eleven books, Lennard J. Davis is Professor of English, Professor of Disability and Human Development, and Professor of Medical Education at the University of Illinois at Chicago, as well as the director of Project Biocultures, a think-tank devoted to disability and medicine issues impacting our culture. Davis's influential books on disability including The Disability Studies Reader and Enforcing Normalcy have won numerous prizes and awards including a Guggenheim Fellowship and Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Human Rights award. His memoir My Sense of Silence was chosen Editor's Choice Book for the Chicago Tribune and nominated for the Book Critics Circle Award for 2000. A co-founder of the Modern Language Association's Committee on Disability Issues in the Profession, he is on the board of several academic journals and regularly writes for the New York Times, The Nation, The Chronicle of Higher Education, among other publications.

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Teaching About Religion in an Age of Intolerance
Linda K. Wertheimer

ON SALE: 8/18/2015

SUMMARY

An intimate, intense, cross-country look at the new debate over religion in the public schools - how to best teach children about the world's religions so they learn to respect each other and become religiously literate.

A suburban Boston school unwittingly started a firestorm of controversy over a sixth grade field trip. The class was visiting a mosque to learn about world religions when a handful of boys, unnoticed by their teachers, joined the line of worshippers and acted out the motions of the Muslim call to prayer. Suddenly Wellesley's sixth-grade class about the world's religions was under attack. Charges flew that the school exposed the children to Muslims who intended to convert American school children.

Veteran education journalist Linda K. Wertheimer spent months with that class and traveling to other communities around the nation listening to voices on all sides of the controversy, including clergy, teachers, children and parents who are Muslim, Jewish, Christian, Sikh, or atheist. In Lumberton, Texas nearly 100 people filled a school board meeting to protest a teacher's dress-up exercise, allowing a girl to try on a burka as part of a lesson on Islam. In Tampa, the head of a Muslim civil rights group spoke to several high school world history classes about Islam, sparking debate about which guest speakers are appropriate. In Wichita, Kansas, a Messianic Jewish family's opposition to a bulletin board display about Islam in an elementary school led to such upheaval that the school had to hire extra security. But in Modesto, a city in the heart of California's Bible Belt, teachers have avoided problems since 2000 when the school system began requiring all high school freshmen to take a world religions course. Students learn how to fight for their own rights and for those of religious minorities who once seemed so alien. Wertheimer's fascinating investigation reveals a public education system struggling to find the right path forward, and offers a promising roadmap for raising a new generation of religiously literate Americans.

KEY POINTS

- AUTHOR IS AN AWARD-WINNING EDUCATION WRITER AND ESSAYIST, past education editor of The Boston Globe and a reporter at The Dallas Morning News and The Orlando Sentinel. Her work has appeared in The Writer magazine, The Atlantic's web site, Tiferet, Moment magazine, and the Boston Globe Magazine.

AUTHOR BIO

Linda K. Wertheimer is an award-winning education writer and essayist. She was previously the education editor of The Boston Globe and a reporter at The Dallas Morning News and The Orlando Sentinel. Her work has appeared in numerous publications, including The Writer magazine, The Atlantic’s web site, Tiferet, Moment magazine, and the Boston Globe Magazine. She has taught journalism at Boston University and courses on publishing at Grub Street in Boston. A graduate of Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism, she lives in Lexington, Massachusetts.

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