

Armando Morales and Bradford W. Sheafer. *Social Work: A Profession of Many Faces*. Third Edition. (Boston: Allyn and Bacon, Inc., 1983) 480 pp., \$25.95.

Morales and Sheafer bring their diverse histories to this comprehensive overview of the social work profession. The result of their collaboration is a balanced presentation of a complex field, an appropriate introduction for students considering social work careers.

The organization of the text reflects the breadth of the author's understanding of the role of social work in contemporary American culture. Part One provides an overview of the profession, its history and the training necessary to enter the field. Of particular value is the frank discussion of the self-image difficulties of a profession which has risen from, and continues to be shaped by, volunteerism. Alternative futures are outlined which would have varying impacts on the resolution of the status issue.

Part two, the Context of Social Work, is perhaps the weakest section of the text in that too little direction is offered for resolution of the substantive issues raised. In particular, the accountability of the profession for delivering services of the scope and at the level to justify the escalating cost of social welfare is challenged. Efficacy and stability of services delivered within a context of social progress are commendable goals, but measurement of progress toward them is difficult at best, given the ideological nature of their definition. On the positive side, the authors are to be commended for their forthright examination of public attitudes toward social services, especially welfare, in this section. Finally, the authors make a sustained effort to keep constantly before the reader the dual focus of the field on the person and on the environment: which creates both the ambiguities and the opportunities peculiar to social work.

Part Three is perhaps the most solidly instructional section of the text, with chapters outlining the knowledge, values, and skill bases of social workers in action, assisting a family in multiple crises. A minority family's situation is presented as it intersects with social service providers and leads naturally to the final and most distinctive section of the text.

Special populations and concerns in social work, Part Four of the text, includes nine chapters authored by contributing specialists who complement the overview of the first three sections with more focused resources. The tone is set by chapter 11, which examines the way political, racial, and economic forces combine to create a permanent underclass, overwhelming the affected family's ability to bring about change or improvement.

This study of the impact of classism is followed by equally telling

reviews of sexism, ageism, and racism as patterns of societal structure which operate to create a context for dependency, frustration, and crisis. The role of the social worker in the context of these forms of discrimination is discussed, both in general terms, and as it pertains to particular contexts, such as the criminal justice system.

The bulk of the chapters in Part Four is ethnic group specific, treating social work practice in relation to Puerto Rican, Native American, Asian American, Mexican American, and black clients. Particularly promising is the explicit adoption of empowerment as a goal for the services provided. To underline the potential of this approach, further clarification and illustration is provided for the concepts of advocacy and empowerment in the final chapter on new directions and challenges.

Given the present state of policy, this text is probably the most effectively universal and non-racist in existence. In a more integrated culture, chapter illustrations and embedded materials would replace the separate-but-equal ethnic group chapters. Until that time, and to assist in attaining that ideal, this text is recommended for its content, its suggested additional readings, clarifying notes, and above all, for the intent, so well-realized, to respond effectively to the challenges posed by contemporary massive inequities.

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Wilbur S. Nye (with original photographs by William S. Soule). *Plains Indian Raiders: The Final Phases of Warfare from the Arkansas to the Red River.* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1984) xx, 418 pp., \$22.50, \$10.95 paper.

Published in 1968, reprinted in 1974, and a third printing in 1984, this volume contains a collection of 112 superb photographs, mostly by William S. Soule. Born in Maine in 1836, he was wounded in the Civil War and in 1865 entered the photography business, but sold this to become chief clerk in the sutler store operated by John Tappan at Fort Dodge (Kansas), where he resumed his photographic activity during off-duty hours. Soule probably made most of his photographs of Cheyennes and Araphoes at Fort Dodge, some others at Camp Supply and Fort Sill (Indian Territory). All of the pictures are probably from the period 1867-1875, and they, perhaps more than the text, explain the need for the third printing of this volume.