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Lovelock, Karen Lyons and Jackie Powell (Eds.).

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Rawl's, Nozick and others. Although Fleischacker's views on the origins of the concept may be disputed, the importance of his book for social workers lies not in these and many other interesting scholarly points, but in the way the author provides an accessible account of how the concept of social justice has been used and what it means. This is a marvelous book which should be read by all social workers. By causing social workers to consider the complex issues the concept of social justice raises, Fleischacker's book may facilitate a more nuanced and sophisticated understanding of what has become a central concept in the field.

Robin Lovelock, Karen Lyons and Jackie Powell (Eds.), *Reflecting on Social Work: Discipline and Profession*. Burlington, VT: Ashgate Publishers, 2004. \$ 79.95 hardcover.

Since the profession's inception over a hundred years ago, social work scholars have generated a huge literature about the nature of social work, its goals and mission. Although most social work practitioners have a fairly good idea about their role in society, and the tasks they are required to perform, social work scholars have long agonized over the issue and very divergent views about the nature of social work have been expressed. As the editors of this book point out in their introduction, the search for meaning and identity is an ongoing one, and there is a continual flow of texts reevaluating and reappraising the profession's identity. The primary purpose of the book is to contribute to the ongoing debate about the fundamental nature and scope of social work, and to consider its future in the light of rapidly changing social economic and political realities. Accordingly, the editors commissioned ten chapters that address diverse aspects of contemporary social work with reference to the book's theme. Most of the chapters are written by British scholars who raise many interesting issues related to contemporary social work.

The ten chapters are very wide ranging. Following an interesting introduction by the editors, the book begins with a discussion by two leading British social work authors, Bill Jordan and Nigel Parton, on the relationship between social work, the public-sector and civil society. This chapter is followed by a lively contribution on the MacDonalidization of social work by Adrian James. Several articles deal with research issues. Ian Butler and Richard Pugh

write about the politics of social work research, Beth Humphries argues that social work is a moral and political activity and that social work research should "take sides", Nick Gould offers a helpful article about the role of qualitative research in social work, Walter Lorenz considers the contribution of research to social work's search for identity, and Steve Trevillion writes about social work research and partnerships with social agencies. Several other chapters address epistemological concerns. Karen Lyons and Imogen Taylor contribute a chapter about gender and knowledge in social work, Jeremy Kearny examines the relevance of Wittgenstein's work to theory development and Robin Lovelock and Jackie Powell provide an analysis of the contributions of Habermas and Foucault to critical practice.

While many of these chapters are interesting, theoretically sophisticated and significant for knowledge development in social work, it is difficult to see how they foster the book's goal of contributing to social work's search for meaning and identity. Since most of the articles address research issues, or otherwise deal with theoretical challenges, it might have been better if the book had been designed specifically around the theme of knowledge development. But while the book gives the impression of being disjointed, the contribution of the individual chapters should not be underestimated. There is much here that will be of interest to social work scholars and researchers, and the book deserves to be widely read.

Marcelo M. Suarez-Orozco and Desiree Baolian Qin-Hilliard (Eds.), *Globalization: Culture and Education in the New Millennium*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2004. \$50.00 hardcover, \$19.95 papercover.

Although the concept of globalization has long been dominated by economic considerations, the non-economic dimensions of current international processes are increasingly being recognized. Today, a substantial literature has been published on the way global interdependence in the fields of politics, culture, communications, social welfare and demography is reshaping the modern world. This literature has dealt, for example, with the growth of civil society institutions, political cooperation,