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Revitalising Communities in a Globalising World. Lena Dominelli, Editor.

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The bulk of the book is concerned with the historical, cultural and political dimensions of these conflicts. These are analyzed in great depth and offer an incisive yet extremely readable account which will serve as a useful summary for anyone wishing to know more about each situation. The author is also able to offer a balanced view which dispassionately examines the positions on each side yet does not shirk from exposing blatant injustices. However, the best part of the book is its introduction, which provides a general analysis of the cause of conflicts involving land as well as the best means of addressing them. Although Bose recapitulates some of these general principles in the book's conclusion, a more extensive exposition would have been helpful, especially with regard to the issue of how these conflicts can be managed and resolved.

Bose argues that solutions that transcend a zero-sum strategy must be found and that they must be found quickly. Currently popular incremental approaches, he argues, seldom work. In addition, success is most likely achieved through third party engagement, particularly by powerful intermediaries. He shows, for example, how the Palestinian issue has been left to fester because of a lack of decisiveness and determination by successive American presidents. He also sees merit in consociationism and the use of "soft borders" between disputed territories. Although it is a pity that Bose did not discuss these and other strategies in more detail, it is to be hoped that future publications will develop these insights and form the basis for effective interventions that can address the deadly conflicts which continue to plague the modern world.

James Midgley, University of California, Berkeley

Lena Dominelli (Ed.), *Revitalising Communities in a Globalising World*. Burlington, VT: Ashgate Publishing, 2007. \$114.95 hardcover.

Globalization, a term which covers a wide range of political, economic, and cultural movements, has become a fashionable catchphrase in recent political and academic debate.

In the current offering, Dominelli and her colleagues provide a social justice perspective to address the opportunities and constraints of globalization on human development within the realm of the social work profession.

In the introduction, Dominelli argues that *globalisation* (English spelling) is more than an economic force—it is a socio-political and economic form of social organization that has penetrated the everyday life of inhabitants all over the world. Expressed by neoliberalist ideology (which is defined as the transfer of the economy from the public to private realm) and endorsed through policies of structural adjustment, globalization has promoted capitalist social relations worldwide. The process has altered cultural perceptions, posed serious issues for communities, and has created a collective challenge to the social work profession to address concerns at multiple levels.

The book is divided into three parts: theory, practice, and education. Part one includes six articles which focus on theories of globalization and communities. The first few articles explore how globalization has redefined communities, changed boundaries, and fused cultures between and within communities. Through a system which favors capitalist social reforms, the process has resulted in the creation and reinforcement of class distinction, social exclusion, and oppression. Additional articles explore how the collapse of boundaries between professionals and communities has impacted the dialogue within and about the social work profession. The section ends with a case study of South Africa's attempt to develop a social welfare system within the neoliberalist framework and an exploration of collective action in social movement practice.

Part two includes 14 articles which investigate practice examples of how different groups of people or communities have responded to the challenges of globalization. Articles include a feminist perspective of how women organize for social change, the failure of collective action in impoverished communities to affect policy formation, and a discussion of how globalization attempts to dictate conditions of change which neglect the needs of the people. Additional articles explore the strengths and challenges of microfinance to eradicate poverty and the development of social structure in Croatia with a focus on non-governmental organizations (NGO's). The section ends with

an investigation into barriers for empowerment of indigenous persons, the catalyst and effects of migration in Ethiopian, Sweden, and Jamaica, and the impact of aid on local rebuilding in tsunami-affected countries

Part three includes six articles which investigate social work education at both the national and international levels. The primary focus is the exploration of how, through increased education and training, social workers can be better equipped to practice in globalizing communities. Articles include an exploration of social work responses in situations of national disaster, child trafficking, and work with indigenous persons. The section ends with an exploration of international social work and the need to create a global professional community which is sensitive to local knowledge and diversity.

While the information presented is interesting and timely, the scope and flow of the included literature makes it difficult to grasp the unifying message. But maybe that's the point. Globalization is a multifaceted and challenging topic that has yet to be fully explored or understood within a social work perspective. The social work profession is just beginning to grapple with intricacies of affect and how the profession can adapt to address global concerns. While specific answers are not forthcoming in this text, it does present an overview of important questions in which to begin an earnest discussion.

Kristine Frerer, University of California, Berkeley

Gardenia Harris, Bernard Ivan Tamas and Nancy S. Lind,
Dynamics of Social Welfare Policy: Right versus Left. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2007. \$80.00 hardcover; \$39.95 papercover.

Although it may be true that there was a general consensus about social welfare issues in the decades following the Second World War, and that politicians of different political hues recognized the need for government intervention in social welfare, debates about these issues are now sharply polarized. Today, as the nation's policymakers seek to formulate legislative responses to the pressing problems of the time,