

BOOK REVIEW

R. R. Kangas,¹ M.S.

A Review of *Contemporary Violence*

REFERENCE: Wilber, C. G., Ed., *Contemporary Violence*, Charles C Thomas, Springfield, Ill., 1975, 163 pages.

This is an academic exploration of the topic of violence as it is delineated by Dr. Wilber and his collaborators. Although the book is written primarily for law enforcement officers, it represents an objective study that approaches the subject from a number of angles—no aspect of violence is left untouched. True to its subtitle, “A Multi-Disciplinary Examination,” the volume represents the contributions of five authors, an anthropologist, a sociologist, a psychologist, and two zoologists, each taking a unique and refreshing approach. The editor relies on his own extensive background to draw the entire package together.

Truly a contemporary work, *Contemporary Violence* contains an abundance of excellent reference material, making it the ideal starting point for anyone, scholar, police officer, or social scientist, who wishes to pursue aspects of the subject to even greater depths. The university-level instructor will find this an excellent text for courses related to criminal justice.

Stimulating, thought-provoking, and informative! The authors have been not at all reluctant to commit themselves, so the reader, regardless of his particular field or background, will probably find some point with which to take issue.

I especially recommend this book to members of the law enforcement community as a step toward understanding and responding to violence, a phenomenon now encountered almost daily.

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