Making a Home
Assisted Living in the Community for Young Disabled People

by Jen Powley

This book documents Powley’s fight for young disabled people to live in the community rather than being institutionalized in nursing homes.

In some Canadian provinces, people with severe physical disabilities are simply warehoused in nursing homes, where many people, especially in the age of homecare, are in the final stages of their lives. It is difficult for a young person to live in a home geared for death; their physical assistance needs are met, but their social, psychological and emotional needs are not. Jen Powley argues that everyone deserves to live with the dignity of risk.

In Making a Home, Powley tells the story of how she got young disabled people like herself out of nursing homes through developing a group home for adults with severe physical disabilities. This book makes a case for living in the community and against dehumanizing institutionalization.

JEN POWLEY was born in Alberta, moved to Halifax for university and stayed. An author by circumstance, she wrote Just Jen: Thriving Through Multiple Sclerosis, which won the 2018 Margaret and John Savage First Time Author Nonfiction Book Award. Powley has completed a BA and an after degree in journalism, as well as an MFA in Creative Non-Fiction at the University of King’s College.

health and illness; homecare; independent living; assisted living; assisted sex; progressive multiple sclerosis; severe physical disabilities; nursing home; medical assistance in dying; partner surrogacy
Driving in Palestine

by Rehab Nazzal

This artistic research-creation project documents the politics of surveillance and mobility in contemporary Palestine through photos, hand-drawn maps and critical multilingual essays.

During the past seven decades, Palestine has been sealed from the Arab world and shattered into fragmented and coded areas: 1948 area, 1967 area, Jerusalem, West Bank, Gaza and A, B and C areas within the West Bank. Each area is ruled by different laws, including different roads and permits that control the mobility of Palestinians and privilege Jewish settlers.

Driving in Palestine is a research-creation project by acclaimed artist Rehab Nazzal, who explores the visible indices of the politics of mobility that she encountered firsthand while traversing the occupied West Bank between 2010 and 2020. This photography book consists of 160 black and white photographs, hand-drawn maps and critical essays in Arabic and English by Palestinian and Canadian scholars and artists. The photographs were all captured from moving vehicles on the roads of the West Bank. They focus on Israel’s architecture of movement restrictions and surveillance structures that proliferate in the West Bank, including the Apartheid Wall, segregation walls surrounding illegal colonies, gates, fences, watchtowers, roadblocks and military checkpoints among other obstacles to freedom of movement.

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An Introduction to the Labour Movement in Canada

by Stephanie Ross and Larry Savage

Two of Canada’s foremost experts in labour studies detail the evolving struggle of Canadian workers to defend themselves under capitalism. Workers wanting to organize as well as students of labour studies will find this book essential reading.

—PEGGY NASH, former senior UNIFOR negotiator and former MP, now a senior advisor at Toronto Metropolitan University

A key introduction to the history, role, strategies and contributions of unions and the labour movement in Canada, including impacts of COVID-19 on the collective power of workers.

This fourth edition of Building A Better World offers a comprehensive introductory overview of Canada’s labour movement. The book explores why workers form unions; assesses their organization and democratic potential; examines issues related to collective bargaining, grievances and strike activity; charts the historical development of labour unions; and describes the gains unions have achieved for their members and all working people. This new and expanded edition also analyzes the challenges facing today’s labour movement as a result of COVID-19 and the strategies being developed to overcome them.

STEPHANIE ROSS is director of the School of Labour Studies at McMaster University.
LARRY SAVAGE is chair of the Department of Labour Studies at Brock University.

Subject categories:
- Business & Economics / Labour / Unions
- Political Science / Labour & Industrial Relations

Key content highlights:
- Understanding Unions
- Early Union Struggles in Canada
- Union Breakthroughs and Challenges
- Unions in the Workplace
- Unions and Political Action
- How Do Unions Work?
- What Difference Do Unions Make?
- Who Belongs to Unions?
- Who Doesn’t and Why?
- The Future of Unions

More from these authors:
Rethinking the Politics of Labour in Canada
Essential Work, Disposable Workers
Migration, Capitalism and Class

by Mostafa Henaway

foreword by Harsha Walia

With massive expansion of precarious work under neoliberalism, migrant workers are challenging conditions of their hyper-exploitation through struggles for worker rights and justice.

In recent years, waves of migration from the Middle East, Latin America and Africa to Europe and North America have been met with a corresponding rise in anti-immigrant, far-right populism in host countries, placing the question of migration at the forefront of politics and social movements. In this sweeping account, Henaway seeks to understand these patterns through contextualizing global migration within a history of global capitalism, class formation and the financialization of migration. As globalization intensifies, workers everywhere are forced to compete for wages — not through foreign investment and outsourcing, but through an increasingly mobile working class. Henaway rejects the dominant responses of restricting or “managing” migration through temporary worker programs, proposing that stopping a race to the bottom for all working people involves building solidarity with migrant worker struggles for decent work and justice.

Through examining the organizing strategies of migrant workers at giants like Amazon and Walmart as well as discount retailers like Dollarama and Sports Direct, the immense power and agency of precarious workers in global companies like Uber or Airbnb, the successful resistance of taxi drivers and fast food workers around the world, and the contemporary mass labour movement organized by new unions and workers’ centres, Henaway shows how migrant demands and strategies can help shape radical working-class politics.

Mostafa Henaway, a Canadian-born Egyptian, is a long-time community organizer at the Immigrant Workers Centre in Montreal, where he has been organizing for justice for immigrant/migrant workers for over two decades. He is also a researcher and PhD candidate at Concordia University.

Subject categories
political science / public policy / immigration
social science / emigration & immigration
law / emigration & immigration

Key content highlights
Neoliberal Migration • Financialization of Migration • The Making of Migration • Managing Migration & Class • Precarious Work for Precarious Workers • Amazon Economy • The City as a Sweatshop • New Forms of Organizing • Workers Centres • Fight for the Working Class • Striking for Status • Solidarity Summer & Great Migrations
Realizing a Good Life
Men’s Pathways out of Drugs and Crime

by Elizabeth Comack

Criminalized men tell us how they overcame trauma, racism, poverty and abuse. Personal and institutional supports of caring are key — being cared for and caring for others.

Realizing a good life is almost always defined in material terms, typified by individuals (usually men) who have considerable wealth. But classed, gendered and racialized social supports enable the “self-made man.” Instead, this book turns to Indigenous knowledge about realizing a good life to explore how marginalized men endeavour to overcome systemic inequalities in their efforts to achieve wholeness, balance, connection, harmony and healing.

Twenty-three men, most of whom are Indigenous, share their stories of this journey. For most, the pathway started in challenging circumstances — disrupted families and child welfare interventions, intergenerational trauma, racism and bullying, and physical and sexual abuse. Most coped with the pain through drugging and drinking or joining a street gang, setting them on a path to jail. Once caught in the criminal justice net, realizing a good life became even more difficult.

Some of the men, however, have made great strides to realize a good life. They tell us how they got out of “the problem,” with insights on how to maintain sobriety, navigate systemic barriers and forge connections and circles of support. Ultimately, it comes down to social supports — and caring. As one man put it, change happened when he “had to care for somebody else in a way that I wanted to be cared for.”
Out To Defend Ourselves
A History of Montreal’s First Haitian Street Gang
by Maxime Aurélien and Ted Rutland

The book provides a social history of Montreal’s first Haitian street gang and the changing city in which it emerged.

This first critical history of a street gang in a Canadian city is a result of a four-year collaboration between a university professor (Ted Rutland) and the leader of les Bélangers (Maxime Aurélien). Out to Defend Ourselves tells the story of Montreal’s first Haitian street gang, les Bélangers. It traces how the gang emerged from a group of Haitian friends, the children of migrants from Haiti in the 1970s. It documents the forms of racial violence they experienced and their battles against them. It also documents the everyday lives of the gang members, the petty crime some members engaged in to make ends meet, and how the police actions against the gang changed its nature and function — making it, finally, a more criminally oriented and violent formation. It is a story about a gang, but it is also a story of young Haitians making their lives in 1970s and 80s Montreal and a story about Montreal in a period of great change.

MAXIME AURÉLIEN is the former leader of les Bélangers, Montreal’s first Haitian street gang. He is the owner of Cash Comptent, a pawn shop and barbershop in Montreal’s East End.

TED RUTLAND is a professor at Concordia University. His research and activism focuses on the racial politics of urban planning and policing in Canadian cities. He is the author of Displacing Blackness: Planning, Power, and Race in Twentieth-Century Halifax.

youth; racialized poverty; racial violence; policing; racism; anti-racism; crime; survival economies; street economies; black lives matter movement; media; migration; journalism; social history; sociology; urban studies
Scoundrels and Shirkers
Capitalism and Poverty in Britain
by Jim Silver

This book integrates a sophisticated analysis of poverty with a full historical account of capitalism.

*Scoundrels and Shirkers* examines the deep relationship between capitalism and poverty in England since the 12th century. It exposes the dynamics of capitalism, from its origins in the long transition from feudalism to its current crisis under neoliberal capitalism, in producing poverty.

The book, unique in the historical breadth of its focus, shows conclusively that poverty is an inevitable consequence of capitalism. In the search for profits and control of society’s economic surplus, capitalism expands, adapts and innovates, producing not only commodities and wealth but also, and necessarily, poverty.

With the partial but important exception of the 1945–51 Labour governments, and to a lesser extent the time between 1906 and 1914, there has never been a serious attempt to solve poverty. Efforts have always been to manage and control the poor to prevent them from starving or rebelling; to punish and blame them for being poor; and to force them into poverty-level jobs. Any real solution would require the logic of capitalism to be deeply disrupted. While possible in theory, such a change will require massive social movements and the political will to confront capitalist resistance.

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**KEY CONTENT HIGHLIGHTS**

- Feudalism to Neo-liberal Capitalism
- Christianity and Enclosure
- The Detritus of Crumbling Feudalism
- Elizabethan Poor Law
- The New Poor Law and Horrific Forms of Poverty
- Great Unrest: 1880-1914
- Mass Unemployment and Poverty: 1920s-30s
- Mid-Century Retrenchment
- Thatcherism
- Thatcherism in Redux
- Solving Perpetual Poverty

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**MORE FROM THIS AUTHOR**

Jim Silver is a professor emeritus at the University of Winnipeg who has written extensively on poverty and related issues, including public housing and low-income rental housing, community development and education, adult education and Indigenous street gangs. He is a founding member of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives–Manitoba and played a key role in the establishment of Merchants Corner, a University of Winnipeg off-campus site in Winnipeg’s low-income and racialized North End.

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undeserving poor; deserving poor; poor; precarious work; industrial revolution
Property Wrongs
The Seventy-Year Fight for Public Housing in Winnipeg
by Doug Smith

Business interests have fought hard against public housing by doing their utmost to limit city democracy.

Until 1969, the City of Winnipeg had undertaken only two public housing projects even though the failure of the market to provide adequate housing for low-income Winnipeggers had been apparent since the beginning of the century. By 1919, providing housing was a significant issue in municipal politics that was embraced by civic officials, professionals, reformers, labour leaders and social democratic politicians. It also became a proxy issue for refighting the 1919 General Strike at city hall. However, Winnipeg’s business community proved effective opponents of public housing. The struggle for public housing was also a struggle for democracy. Up until the 1960s, public housing required approval by a referendum in which only the city’s property owners could vote. This rule deprived close to half the city’s voters — and virtually everyone who might qualify to live in public housing — of the right to vote. Over decades that barrier to democracy was whittled away, but by the end of the 1960s, less than 600 units of public housing had been built in Manitoba. This changed dramatically in 1969 with the election of an NDP government. In the 1970 and 1980s, activist federal and provincial governments created over a thousand units of public and social housing a year.

Today public housing is once more under attack. Rather being treated as valued public assets, these housing units are considered embarrassing encumbrments that should be sold as part of a process of turning public housing over to the private sector. The struggle to protect and expand the provision of non-profit housing is undermined by the rupture in political memory of the long struggle to build public housing and the current political situation.

DOUG SMITH is a Winnipeg writer and author of numerous books on political and social issues and Manitoba labour and political history, including Stickin’ to the Union: Local 2224 versus John Buhler and Consulted to Death: How Canada’s Workplace Health and Safety System Fails Workers. He has written for several magazines and newspapers including THIS Magazine, Maclean’s and the Winnipeg Sun. He has also worked as producer at CBC radio for documentaries and the CBC Radio program Ideas and as an editorial consultant on a number of public inquiries including the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

real estate; business organizations; 1919 general strike; housing policy; committee of one thousand; voting franchise
Global Fishers
The Politics of Transnational Movements

by Elyse Noble Mills

This very well researched book provides a valuable overview of key network organizations, tracing their origins, development and engagement in contemporary political spaces.

—CHARLES LEVKOE, Lakehead University

This book fills an important gap in the literature on global politics and transnational social movements through its focus on small-scale fishers’ movements.

—KRISTEN LOWITT, Queen’s University

A must read for anyone working at the intersection of movements and food governance.

—JESSICA DUNCAN, Wageningen University

This book analyzes political economy and ecology debates to focus on socio-ecological dynamics of fisheries politics.

Contemporary politics around fisheries are complex and contentious. Fishers’ movements and their political agendas have played a critical role in global fisheries, particularly in the context of rural and environmental transformations. This book explores two transnational movements representing small-scale fishers — the World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP) and the World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers (WFF). It brings the politics of these movements into academic and political debates by exploring three connected analytical spheres: transnational movements contesting and seeking to influence the politics of global fisheries; international political spaces movements are prioritizing; and contentious fisheries issues movements are struggling over. This book draws upon political economy and political ecology debates, focusing its multi-layered analytical approach on socio-ecological dynamics of fisheries politics.

ELYSE NOBLE MILLS is a program associate with the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers, working with fishers’ organizations on international processes and campaigns. She has a PhD from the International Institute of Social Studies in the Netherlands, where her research focused on the politics of transnational fishers’ movements and global fisheries.

subject categories
Political Science / Political Freedom
Social Science / Sociology / Rural

key content highlights
Politics of Transnational “Fisheries Justice”
Movements • Waves of Development: Industrialization, Privatization, Conservation • Transnational Movements: Birth, Consolidation, Evolution, Contestation • Movements as Actors in Fisheries, Food and Climate Governance • Contentious Fisheries Issues • Critical Voices and the Future of Fisheries Justice

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5.5 x 8.5" • 188 pages • Rights: Canada & US
The Political Economy of Agribusiness
A Critical Development Perspective

by Maria Luisa Mendonça

The Political Economy of Agribusiness by Maria Luisa Mendonça is a brilliantly written small book about a huge issue confronting humanity: agribusiness — and how it causes social problems such as land grabbing, inequality and exploitation, and provokes resistance. It is a must-read for academics and activists alike.

— SATURNINO M. BORRAS JR., International Institute of Social Studies (ISS), now in the Netherlands

This book analyzes global economic policies that impact rural communities, land use, food sovereignty and environmental justice.

What is agribusiness? When did it emerge? In answering these questions, Mendonça traces the global contours of contemporary agriculture, bringing a critical analysis of the origins of agribusiness in the US and its subsequent international signature. The investigation reveals that the industrialization of agriculture was a result of a dialectical movement of economic crisis and expansion, and her analysis sheds new light on current debates about food sovereignty, agriculture technologies, international financial markets and farmland speculation.

Mendonça challenges the established contemporary discourse regarding the contribution that agribusiness makes to economic development. Industrialization of agriculture demands increasing amounts of credit for capital inputs, which are captured by agribusiness corporations, leading to market concentration. For those who are new to the study of agribusiness, this book provides a clear introduction to global trends. For those more engaged it serves as a valuable overview, an excellent text for students involved in studies of agriculture and food sovereignty.

MARIA LUISA MENDONÇA is director of Rede Social de Justiça e Direitos Humanos (Network for Social Justice and Human Rights), research scholar at the Center for Place, Culture and Politics, CUNY Graduate Center, editor of the annual book of Human Rights in Brazil and co-founder of the World Social Forum. Her expertise in the political economy of agriculture lends itself to experiences in documentary filmmaking, investigative journalism and community-based research and as an expert for the United Nations.

teachers insurance and annuity association harvard university; WTO; world trade organization; food and agriculture organization; FAO; biofuels; la vía campesina; movimento sem terra (landless workers movement); dispossession; agroecology; biodiversity
Dental care in Canada is for those who can afford it. What will it take to make oral healthcare free?

Dental care is excluded from Canada’s universal healthcare system, with services provided based on the ability to pay. Our dental-care system is leading large segments of the population to neglect care, resulting in poor oral health and all of its consequences. This book examines the history of dentistry in Canada, demonstrating how private business interests have prevailed over public health. Current trends in the industry, such as corporate ownership and a focus on cosmetic dentistry, continue this history. But change is possible. By examining alternative approaches to the current dental-care system, this book is a call to action to make a healthier future possible.

**Dr. Brandon Doucet** is a dentist practising in Nova Scotia, with interests in surgery and public health, and is the founder of the Coalition for Dentalcare.
Frequently Asked White Questions
by Ajay Parasram and Alex Khasnabish

A gutsy, clear, compelling pep talk for the white anti-racist. The candour and focus on practice will reach many people.
— ARDATH WHYNACHT, author of Insurgent Love

Are you a white person with questions about how race affects different situations, but you feel awkward, shy or afraid to ask the people of colour in your life? Are you a racialized person who is tired of answering the same questions over and over? This book is for you: a basic guide for people learning about racial privilege. In Frequently Asked White Questions, Alex Khasnabish and Ajay Parasram answer ten of the most common questions asked of them by people seeking to understand how race structures our every day. Drawing from their lived experiences as well as live sessions of their monthly YouTube series Safe Space for White Questions, the authors offer concise, accessible answers to questions such as, “Is it possible to be racist against white people?” or “Shouldn’t everyone be treated equally?” With humour and compassion, this book offers relatable advice and a practical entry point into conversations about race.

Abolitionist Intimacies
by El Jones

Abolitionist Intimacies is an urgently needed text. With rigour, theoretical agility and a grounded sense of integrity, Jones forwards a poetic vision of intimacy, care and human liberation, sketching out abolitionist futures beyond policing, prisons and cages.
— ROBYN MAYNARD, author of Policing Black Lives, co-author of Rehearsals for Living

In Abolitionist Intimacies, El Jones examines the movement to abolish prisons through the Black feminist principles of care and collectivity. Understanding the history of prisons in Canada in their relationship to settler colonialism and anti-Black racism, Jones observes how practices of intimacy become imbued with state violence at carceral sites including prisons, policing and borders, as well as through purported care institutions such as hospitals and social work. The state also polices intimacy through mechanisms such as prison visits, strip searches and managing community contact with incarcerated people. Despite this, Jones argues, intimacy is integral to the ongoing struggles of prisoners for justice and liberation through the care work of building relationships and organizing with the people inside. Through characteristically fierce and personal prose and poetry, and motivated by a decade of prison justice work, Jones observes that abolition is not only a political movement to end prisons; it is also an intimate one deeply motivated by commitment and love.
We Were Not the Savages, 4th Edition
Collision Between European and Native American Civilizations
by Daniel N. Paul; foreword by Pamela Palmater

An intellectual blockbuster upending the smug sense that this land was only ever European. Deeply researched, proving Mi’kmaw language is home to an ancient civilization, upon which everything else was built.

— Jon Tattrie, journalist and author of Cornwallis: The Violent Birth of Halifax

The title of this book speaks to the truth of what happened when Europeans invaded Mi’kmaw lands in the 17th century. Prior to the European invasion the Mi’kmaq lived healthy lives and for thousands of years had lived in harmony with nature in the land they called Mi’kma’ki. When the Europeans arrived they were welcomed and sustained by the Mi’kmaq. Over the next three centuries their language, their culture, their way of life were systematically ravaged by the newcomers to whom they had extended human kindness. The murderous savagery of British scalp proclamations, starvation, malnutrition and Canada’s Indian residential and day schools all but wiped out the Mi’kmaq. Yet the Mi’kmaq survived and today stand defending the land, the water and nature’s bounty from the European way of life, which threatens the natural world we live in and need to survive. In this 4th edition, the author shares his research, which catalogues not only the historical tragedy but the ongoing attempts to silence the Mi’kmaq and other Indigenous Peoples.

mi’kmaw history; colonialism; oppression; survival; halifax; essential reading; elder; IRS

Solidarity Behind Bars
Unionizing Prison Labour
by Jordan House and Asaf Rashid

Well researched and engagingly written, Solidarity Beyond Bars not only describes the current (and deplorable) state of prison labour but explains how legal paradoxes and capitalist impulses brought Canada to this point, and what the paths forward may be.

— Melissa Munn, co-author of Disruptive Prisoners and On the Outside

Prisons don’t work, but prisoners do. Prisons are often critiqued as unjust, but we hear little about the daily labour of incarcerated workers — what they do, how they do it, who they do it for and under which conditions. Unions protect workers fighting for better pay and against discrimination and occupational health and safety concerns, but prisoners are denied this protection despite being the lowest paid workers with the least choice in what they do — the most vulnerable among the working class. Starting from the perspective that work during imprisonment is not “rehabilitative,” this book examines the reasons why people should care about prison labour and how prisoners have struggled to organize for labour power in the past. Unionizing incarcerated workers is critical for both the labour movement and struggles for prison justice, this book argues, to negotiate changes to working conditions as well as the power dynamics within prisons themselves.

abolition; prison justice; work; labour; rights; organizing
Future on Fire
Capitalism and the Politics of Climate Change
by David Camfield; foreword by Dharna Noor

An all-in-one book with everything the committed climate justice activist needs to know. This book covers the issues, the arguments and most importantly the strategies and methods to win.

—TARA OLIJETREE (EHRCKE), Climate Justice Committee chair, Greater Victoria Teachers Assoc.

Climate change is already affecting millions of people. Visionary plans for how to slash emissions and make society better at the same time abound, but how can we make the changes that are so urgently needed? Future on Fire argues that a just transition from fossil fuels and other drivers of climate change will not be delivered by businesspeople or politicians that support the status quo. Nor will electing green left leaders be enough to overcome the opposition of capitalists and state bureaucrats. Only the power of disruptive mass social movements has the potential to force governments to make the changes we need, so supporters of climate justice should commit to building them. Confronting the question — what if heating above 2 degrees becomes unavoidable — and refusing to despair, David Camfield argues that even a ravaged planet is worth fighting for and that ultimately the only solution to the ecological crisis created by capitalism is a transition to ecosocialism.

Worlds at Stake
Climate Politics, Ideology, and Justice
by Aaron Saad

Saad does a good job of covering the essentials in an environmental book — which is Indigenous and anti-colonial perspectives, which have been lacking in environmental books for too long. It’s great to have succinct explanations about denialism and geoengineering.

—JUSTIN PODUR, author of Siegebreakers

The intensifying climate crisis has put the world on high alert. For those living in the high-consuming, high-polluting swaths of the world, it is clear that something about our society, our politics, our economy — our very way of life — must change. But the nature of those necessary changes is a source of seemingly intractable dispute. Our ideologies — the competing ways we believe the world should be — powerfully affect how we see the problem of climate change and what we think ought to be done about it. In this highly original and accessible book, Saad presents an erudite survey of political perspectives and ethical arguments about how we should respond to the climate crisis. By arranging these approaches into two broad categories of “system preserving” and “system changing” frameworks, Saad takes the reader on a journey through competing ideas about how we can address our collective responsibility to create a livable global future.
Country of Poxes
Three Germs and the Taking of Territory
by Baijayanta Mukhopadhyay

“Mukhopadhyay’s voice has the insight of a health worker woven with the beauty of a poet, tying the personal and historical into a riveting work.”
— CHRISTA COUTURE, author of How to Lose Everything

Country of Poxes is the story of land theft in North America through three infectious diseases — syphilis, smallpox and tuberculosis — and reveals how medical care, widely considered a magnanimous cornerstone of the Canadian state, developed in lockstep with colonial control over Indigenous land and life. The 500-year-old debate over the origins of syphilis reflects colonial judgements of morality and sexuality that became formally entwined in medicine. Smallpox is notoriously linked with the project of land theft, as colonizers destroyed Indigenous land, economies and life in the name of disease eradication. And tuberculosis, considered the “Indian disease,” aroused intense fear of contagion that launched separate systems of care for Indigenous Peoples in a de facto medical apartheid, while white settlers retreated to be cured. This immersive and deeply reflective book provides riveting insights into the biological and social relationships of disease and empire.

Rethinking Theory and Practice
edited by Donna Baines, Natalie Clark and Bindi Bennett; foreword by Raven Sinclair (Ótiskewápíwskew)

“Important topics, central to social work practitioners in every field and educators who wish to address issues of diverse vulnerable persons and groups within a social justice framework.”
— MARY VALENTICH, professor emerita, Social Work, University of Calgary

Doing Anti-Oppressive Social Work brings together critical social work authors to passionately engage with pressing social issues and to pose new solutions, practices and analysis in the context of growing inequities and the need for reconciliation, decolonization and far-reaching change. This edition foregrounds the voices of those less heard in social work academia to provide cutting-edge critical reflection and skills, including social work’s relationship to the state and social work’s responsibility to individuals, communities and its own ethics and standards of practice. Indigenous, Black, racialized, transgender, (dis)Ability and allied scholars offer identity-engaged and intersectional analyses on a wide-range of issues facing those working with intersectional cultural humility, racism and child welfare, poverty and single mothers, critical gerontology and older people, and immigrant and racialized families.

smallpox; “indian disease”; infectious disease; medicine; healthcare; indigenous health; empire; land theft; epidemics; history; COVID-19; TB

colonial; oppression; single moms; lived experience; child welfare; storytelling; trans; gender
The Socialist Register 2023

Capital and Politics
edited by Greg Albo, Nicole Aschoff and Alfredo Saad-Filho

CO-PUBLISHED WITH THE MERLIN PRESS

The 59th annual volume of the Socialist Register examines the growth of corporate power and other important organizational trends in global capitalism. It rejects such notions as stakeholder capitalism and reviews the organization and strategies of unions and the left, and its current and potential practices, as it searches for new routes to socialism.

Resilience
Honouring the Children of Residential Schools
by Jackie Traverse; foreword by Geraldine (Gramma) Shingoose

Resilience is the third colouring book made up of works by Anishnaabe artist Jackie Traverse. As with her previous highly successful colouring books, Sacred Feminine and IKWE, this new book contains both drawings and paintings by Jackie. Resilience honours the Indigenous Peoples who were colonized by and endured the violence of Canada’s child stealing systems — residential schools, the Sixties Scoop and child “welfare.” Some Indigenous people survived those systems; tragically, some did not. Jackie and her art pay tribute to and celebrate the resilience of Indigenous Peoples as they rebuild their communities and lives. Grassroots grandmother Geraldine Shingoose provides a foreword.

Resilience is available at fernwood.ca for full backlist.
Ruby Red Skies
by Taslim Burkowicz

“A highly inventive tale of intersecting stories reminding us that the here and now is often powerfully reimagined by the histories we carry within us.
— Dr. Mariam Pirbhai, author of Isolated Incident

Ruby used to be a fiery, sexy, musical genius. But when she got pregnant as a teenager in the 90s, her life took a turn into banality. Now a middle-aged Indo-Canadian woman, she feels unseen and unheard by her white husband and struggles to communicate with her mixed-race daughter. When she discovers her husband cheating, she embarks on a quest to unearth exciting secrets from her past. To find what she needs, she drives straight into B.C.’s raging wildfires, accompanied only by the fantastical stories her mother used to tell about their ancient Mughal ancestry — a dancer named Rubina who lived in the concubine quarters of the great Agra Fort. This book is at once historical fiction and political romance, deftly navigating themes of mixed-race relationships, climate change, motherhood, body shame, death and the passage of time.

This House Is Not a Home
by Katlįà

“Absolutely exquisite. Told with such love and gentle ferocity, This House Is Not A Home will never leave those who read it. I am in awe!
— Richard van Camp, author of The Lesser Blessed and Moccasin Square Gardens

After a hunting trip one fall, a family in the far reaches of so-called Canada’s north return to nothing but an empty space where their home once stood. Finding themselves suddenly homeless, they have no choice but to assimilate into settler-colonial society in a mining town that has encroached on their freedom. This intergenerational coming-of-age novel follows Kò, a Dene man who grew up entirely on the land before being taken to residential school. Visceral and embodied, heartbreaking and spirited, this book presents a clear trajectory of how settlers dispossessed Indigenous Peoples of their land — and how Indigenous communities, with dignity and resilience, continue to live and honour their culture, values, inherent knowledge systems and Indigenous rights towards re-establishing sovereignty.

climate change; ancestry; romance; self-discovery; indo-canadian; feminism; interracial relationship; mixed race; british columbia

housing; industrial pollution; aboriginal title; dispossession; cultural lifestyle; assimilation; family bonds; impacts of colonization on Indigenous family systems; northern impacts
Heroin
by Susan C. Boyd

*Heroin* is an illustrated history of Canadian heroin regulation over two centuries. Susan Boyd points to our failure to address the overdose death epidemic caused by criminalizing drug users and to the decades of resistance to harm-reduction policies. With little evidence of the harm of heroin, drug prohibition is actually tied up with colonization, systemic racism and class and gender injustice that have shaped drug law and policy for decades. This book is informed by documentary evidence and the experiences of people who use/used heroin, drug user unions and harm-reduction advocates. These sources highlight the structural violence of drug policy that uses prohibition and criminalization as the main response to drug use.

Abortion to Abortion
Reproductive Health and Justice in Canada
by Martha Paynter; illustrated by Julia Hutt

The history of abortion decriminalization and critical advocacy efforts to improve access in Canada deserve to be better known. Ordinary people persevered to make Canada the most progressive country in the world with respect to abortion care. But just as abortion access is still poorly understood, so too are Canada’s persistent threats to reproductive justice. This beautifully illustrated book tells the powerful true stories behind the struggles to advance reproductive health and justice in Canada, celebrating past wins and revealing how prison abolition is key to the path forward.

Kaandossiwin, 2nd Edition
How We Come to Know: Indigenous Re-Search Methodologies
by Kathleen E. Absolon (Minogiizhigokwe)

Indigenous methodologies have been silenced and obscured by the Western scientific means of knowledge production. In a challenge to this colonialist rejection of Indigenous knowledge, Anishinaabe re-searcher Kathleen Absolon describes how Indigenous methodologies are guided by Indigenous paradigms, worldviews, principles, processes and contexts, arguing that they are wholistic, relational, inter-relational and interdependent with Indigenous philosophies, beliefs and ways of life. In exploring the ways Indigenous re-searchers use Indigenous methodologies within mainstream academia, this second edition of *Kaandossiwin* renders these methods visible and helps to guard other ways of knowing from colonial repression.

Unravelling Research
The Ethics and Politics of Research in the Social Sciences
edited by Teresa Macias

*Unravelling Research* is about the ethics and politics of knowledge production in the social sciences at a time when the academy is pressed to contend with historical inequities associated with established research practices. Written by an impressive range of scholars whose work is shaped by their commitment to social justice, each chapter grapples with different methodologies, geographical locations and communities and covers a wide range of inquiry. By using their own research projects as sites, contributors probe the ethicality of long-established and cutting-edge methodological frameworks to theorize the invisible relationship between methodology, ethics and politics, elucidating key challenges and dilemmas confronting marginalized researchers and research subjects alike.
Decolonizing Equity
edited by Billie Allan and V.C. Rhonda Hackett; foreword by OmiSoore Dryden

Institutions everywhere seem to be increasingly aware of their roles in settler colonialism and anti-Black racism. As such, many racialized workers are tasked with developing equity plans for their departments, associations or faculties, which this collection acknowledges as both survival and burden. This edited collection centres the voices of Indigenous, Black and other racialized peoples in articulating a vision for decolonial equity work. Specifically, the focus on decolonizing equity is an invitation to re-articulate what equity work can look like when we refuse to separate ideas of equity from the historical and contemporary realities of colonialism in the settler colonial nation states known as Canada and the United States and when we insist on linking an equity agenda to the work of decolonizing our shared realities.

White Benevolence
Racism and Colonial Violence in the Helping Professions
edited by Amanda Gebhard, Sheelah McLean and Verna St. Denis

When working with Indigenous Peoples, the helping professions — education, social work, health care and justice — reinforce the colonial lie that Indigenous Peoples need saving. In White Benevolence, leading anti-racism scholars reveal the ways in which white settlers working in these institutions shape, defend and uphold institutional racism, even while professing to support Indigenous Peoples.

Critical Social Work Praxis
edited by Sobia Shaheen Shaikh, Brenda A. LeFrançois and Teresa Macías

What we think must inform what we do, argue the editors and authors of this cutting-edge social work textbook. In this innovative, expansive and wide-ranging collection, leading social work thinkers engage with social work traditions to bridge social work theory and practice and arrive at social work praxis: a uniting of critical thought and ethical action. This book is the result of decades of experience teaching social work theory and praxis and is a comprehensive teaching and learning tool for the critical social work classroom.

Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice
A Search for Ways Forward
by David Milward

The horrors of the Indian residential schools are by now well-known historical facts, and they have certainly found purchase in the Canadian consciousness in recent years. It is likely that the residential school system forms an important part of the background of almost every Indigenous person who ends up incarcerated, even those who did not attend the schools. The legacy of harm caused by the schools is a vivid and crucial link between Canadian colonialism and Indigenous over-incarceration.
Power and Resistance, 7th Edition
Critical Thinking About Canadian Social Issues
edited by Jessica Antony, Wayne Antony and Les Samuelson

Power and Resistance debunks the dominant neoliberal, hyper-individualist approach to society’s problems that sees poverty as a result of laziness, environmental crises as a result of market demands for products that pollute and Indigenous Peoples’ struggles as a result of not assimilating. The authors argue that it is social inequality and oppression that are the underlying causes of social problems. The seventh edition of Power and Resistance includes new chapters on anti-Black racism in schools, Indigenous people and mental health, food security and sovereignty and work in the gig economy.

Making Sense of Society
Power and Possibility
edited by Alex Khasnabish

Grounded in sister disciplines of sociology and anthropology, this textbook is an accessible and critical introduction to contemporary social research. Focusing on key dynamics and processes at the heart of so many contemporary issues and public conversations, this text highlights the many ways in which critical social research can contribute to exploring, understanding and forging alternatives to an increasingly bankrupt, violent, unstable and unjust status quo.

Advocating for Palestine in Canada
Histories, Movements, Action
edited by Emily Regan Wills, Jeremy Wildeman, Michael Bueckert and Nadia Abu-Zahra; foreword by Libby Davies

Why is it so difficult to advocate for Palestine in Canada and what can we learn from the movement’s successes? This account of Palestine solidarity activism in Canada grapples with these questions through a wide-ranging exploration of the movement’s different actors, approaches and fields of engagement, along with its connections to different national and transnational struggles against racism, imperialism and colonialism.

Capitalism and Dispossession
Corporate Canada at Home and Abroad
edited by David P. Thomas and Veldon Coburn

This edited collection brings together a broad range of case studies to highlight the role of Canadian corporations in producing, deepening and exacerbating conditions of dispossession both at home and abroad. Rather than presented as instances of exceptional greed or malice, the cases are described as expected and inherent consequences of contemporary capitalism and/or settler colonialism. A core purpose of the book is to synthesize analyses of dispossession within and outside of Canada, bringing local and global cases together to present a rigorous analysis of the role of Canadian corporate activity in processes of dispossession.
Tiny Engines of Abundance
A History of Peasant Productivity and Repression

by Jim Handy

This book offers a historical and comparative perspective of peasant productivity using case studies portraying the extraordinary efficiency with which English cottagers, Jamaican ex-slaves, Guatemalan Mayan campesinos, Nigerian hill farmers and Kerala hut dwellers obtained bountiful and diversified harvests from small parcels of land, provisioning for their families and often local markets. Handy’s approach is original, and the book will engage people interested in the history of the peasantry, rural development and the quest for food sovereignty.

Sister Seen, Sister Heard

by Kimia Eslah

Farah’s ready to move out of her parent’s house. She hates the hour-long commute to campus, and she wants more freedom. Maiheen and Mustafa Ghasemi, first-generation Iranian immigrants in Toronto, worry about their youngest daughter’s brusque ways. They wonder why she can’t be more like her older sister, Farzana — though Farah knows Farzana keeps her own secrets. Before Farah can secure her new life, she is brutally assaulted on campus. While grappling with their fears for Farah’s safety, the Ghasemis struggle to find ways to support their daughter as she recovers from trauma, yet continues to assert her independence. This brave coming-of-age story will be familiar to every parent who has struggled to support their child’s choices, every youth who has sought independence and every woman who has survived violence.

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