

Information Alert

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ARTICLE ALERT

4-1/H
GLOBAL WATER ISSUES
eJournal USA, Department of State, July 2011.
<http://iipdigital.usembassy.gov>

Global Water Issues explores the political, social and economic challenges presented by threats to Earth's most vital natural resource. With a foreword by U.S. Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs Maria Otero, Global Water Issues describes how this ecological emergency affects population centers, human health, climate and food security.



What's New

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4-2/H
EDUCATING WOMEN AND GIRLS
eJournal USA, Department of State, June 2011.
<http://iipdigital.usembassy.gov>

Education is crucial to a country's economic and social development. Research by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) shows that each year of schooling increases an individual's economic output by 4 to 7 percent. Educating women and girls, in particular, yields profound social and economic benefits. Studies demonstrate that educating women and girls leads to lower infant and child mortality rates, lower maternal mortality rates, better educated children and increased participation by women in the workforce. Yet despite these benefits, in many countries females receive less schooling than males.



4-3/UP

CONSPIRACY FEVER: The US, Pakistan and its Media

By Huma Yusuf

Survival - Global Politics and Strategy, Vol. 53, No. 4, pp. 95-117.

Since early in 2011, the US–Pakistan relationship has been on a downward spiral. This deteriorating security relationship is increasingly playing out in the public eye, via the US and Pakistani media. Anti-American sentiments and conspiracy theories perpetuated by Pakistan's independent media pose a great challenge to US diplomacy. As private discussions between Islamabad and Washington fail, the media is being used as the communication channel of last resort. Many of the Pakistani media's failings stem from vestigial cultures of censorship and media manipulation. A dearth of prompt, accurate information regarding joint policy decisions from both the US and Pakistani governments also fuels conspiracy theories and irresponsible, sensationalist reportage.

4-4/UP

PAKISTAN ASSISTANCE: Relatively Little of the \$3 Billion in Requested Assistance Is Subject to State's Certification of Pakistan's Progress on Nonproliferation and Counterterrorism Issues
U.S. Government Accountability Office, July 2011.
<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11786r.pdf>

Pakistan is central to U.S. efforts to disrupt, dismantle, and defeat al Qaeda and deny its resurgence in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region. The United States has sought to secure these interests through counterterrorism and counterinsurgency cooperation, as well as through a long-term partnership anchored, in part, by increased civilian and military assistance. Since fiscal year 2002, the U.S. government has provided the Pakistani government almost \$21 billion in assistance and reimbursements toward these goals. However, al Qaeda and other terrorists and violent extremists continue to promote instability and use safe havens in Pakistan's western border region to plan and train for attacks against U.S. interests.

4-5/UP

U.S.-PAKISTAN RELATIONS: Is the Rocky Alliance Worth Saving?

By Marcia Clemmitt

CQ Researcher, Vol. 21, No. 28, August 5, 2011.

On May 2, U.S. Navy Seals raided a house in Abbottabad, Pakistan, and killed Osama bin Laden, mastermind of the September 2001 terror attacks. While Americans hailed the Al Qaeda leader's death, some Pakistanis and Americans, including members of Congress, saw it as yet another betrayal in the rocky alliance between the two nations. Pakistanis considered the U.S. raid as a clear violation of their country's sovereignty; Americans say that bin Laden's ability to take refuge in a major Pakistani city — perhaps for as long as five years — reflected the country's duplicity. Some in Congress have called for ending aid to Pakistan — nearly \$5 billion in fiscal 2010 — on the grounds that Pakistan has undermined the U.S. fight against terrorism. But others warn that halting aid could push nuclear-armed Pakistan further into chaos, thus opening a power vacuum that militants could fill.

4-6/UP

UNRAVELING

By John R. Schmidt

The American Interest Online, September/October 2011.

<http://www.the-american-interest.com>

To a casual observer, the behavior of the Pakistani state must seem puzzling, if not utterly inexplicable. Consider its relationship with the United States. Both U.S. and Pakistani officialdom have long insisted that Pakistan is a close ally that agreed to assist the United States in the global war on terror in the immediate aftermath of 9/11. The problem is that the forces of radical Islam are now so deeply entrenched within Pakistan that they probably cannot be completely rooted out, even if the feudal civilian politicians and army officers who run Pakistan finally decide to try. Although these forces will probably not be able to seize power anytime soon, they will continue to pose a threat, not only to Pakistan, but to the rest of the world, for some time to come. We will probably see an end to it only when the radical Islamic ferment that has roiled the Muslim world for the past three decades finally comes to something like an end. No one can say when that will be.

4-7/UP

WHO BENEFITS FROM U.S. AID TO PAKISTAN?

By S. Akbar Zaidi

Policy Outlook, September 2011.

After 9/11 and again following the killing of Osama bin Laden, questions have been raised about the purpose of aid from the United States to Pakistan. If aid was primarily meant for military and counterterrorism support, the results from an American perspective have been inadequate at best. Washington has accused the Pakistani government and military of duplicity, and of protecting key militant leaders living within Pakistan. The United States continues to ask the government of Pakistan to “do more.” There are Pakistani voices, however, who argue that this is America’s war, not a global or Pakistani war. The fighting has cost Pakistan three times as much as the aid provided and 35,000 victims. Sympathizers of militant groups in Pakistan’s army have also been found to protect insurgents and have been involved in terrorist activities themselves. Clearly, trust is low.

4-8/UP

ALL OVER THE MAP: The Strange New World of Republican Foreign Policy

By Eli Lake,

New Republic, August 18, 2011, pp. 13-17.

The author notes that the foreign-policy consensus within the U.S. Republican Party (GOP) has collapsed. The neoconservatives dominated the party through the 2008 presidential elections, and the candidates then mostly reflected the unilateralist, democracy- and nation-building outlook of the Bush administration. The author writes that the GOP foreign-policy discussion “has imploded entirely, [resulting in a] difficult-to-parse ideological brew of policy disagreements and competing instincts.” Complicating the matter is that most of the candidates are only just beginning to form foreign-policy teams.

4-9/IS

AL-QAEDA AND THE RISE OF CHINA: Jihadi Geopolitics in a Post-Hegemonic World

By Brian Fishman

The Washington Quarterly, Vol. 34, No. 3, 2011, pp. 47-62.

Al-Qaeda after Osama bin Laden is likely to lose some of its global perspective and refocus on targeting local regimes for jihadi revolution. Although bin Laden was uniquely obsessed with the United States, his successors are more likely to focus their energy on vulnerable local regimes rather than the “next” superpower. For Beijing, al-Qaeda’s reaction is but one factor that may force China to reconsider its longstanding policy of non-interference in the affairs of other states. To jihadi enemies of various Arab and Muslim autocracies, economic investment and political support for a leading clique constitutes meddling and may provoke a violent backlash. Although non-intervention is cited by some jihadis as a reason why China would be a better partner for various governments than the United States, the larger lesson of al-Qaeda’s global prominence is that strategic concepts based on the immutability of nation—states and unchallenged authority of governments are increasingly suspect.

4-10/IS

EVERY KINGDOM DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF WILL BE RUINED: A Reflection, a Deflection, and a Qualified Reinterpretation of the Global Jihad

By Liam Martina and M. L. R. Smitha

Studies in Conflict & Terrorism, Vol. 34, No. 9, July 2011, pp. 672-695.

Much analytical commentary implies that a generic West is the principal target of jihadist activism. This study contends that this is a misconception fostered by jihadist groups like Al Qaeda in order to accentuate their stature in the Islamic world and to obscure their true aims, which are first and foremost to secure the dominance of the Salafist interpretation of Islam. The analysis situates Al Qaeda in the tradition of Islamic reform movements and shows that a violent Sufi/Salafist conflict pervades nearly all current examples of strife within the Muslim world. In these conflicts, the role of the “West” is instrumental, not central to the

struggle. Consequently, this study offers a qualification to notions of a “global jihad” and suggests this has important considerations for policymakers in determining the nature of the threat posed by Islamist militancy.

4-11/IS

FOR AMERICA, AN ARAB WINTER

By Aaron D. Miller

Wilson Quarterly, Vol. 35, No. 3, Summer 2011, pp. 36-42.

The demands for change in the Arab world in recent months have created more uncertainty for the United States, notes the author. The fall of Arab autocrats creates more risks than opportunities and the Arab upheavals have narrowed the space in which the United States can pursue its policies and interests. In dealing with each Arab ruler or leader, the United States has struck a different balance between its values and interests. For example, the sweeping changes in the Arab world were a reminder to the Palestinians of how little their own situation had changed while the Arab monarchies, particularly those in the Persian Gulf, have survived without serious challenges.

4-12/IS

LASHKAR-E-TAYIBA AND THE PAKISTANI STATE

By C. Christine Fair

Survival - Global Politics and Strategy, Vol. 53, No. 4, pp. 29-52.

“Given that Pakistan is unlikely to be induced to abandon its reliance upon militancy for both external and internal reasons, the international community, including the United States, should abandon its optimism that additional foreign or security assistance will shift Pakistan’s strategic calculus away from using Lashkar-e-Tayiba (LeT) and other militants to serve its internal and external goals. For Pakistan, LeT is an important asset in the same way that it is an enemy for countries such as India and even the United States. This suggests an urgent need to conceptualize and implement a robust threat containment strategy. Pakistan’s reliance upon LeT will only deepen as security conditions within that country continue to deteriorate. There is little the United States can do in response.”

4-13/IS

MILITARY EXCEPTIONALISM IN PAKISTAN

By Anatol Lieven

Survival - Global Politics and Strategy, Vol. 53, No. 4, pp. 53-68.

Since Pakistan achieved independence in 1947, the country’s military has governed the country outright three times and exerted a strong political influence even when not in power. Pakistan’s tradition of military dominance stems above all from the fact that the Pakistani military is the only institution that works more or less as it is meant to, as measured against the generally accepted standards of a modern state institution. This creates the belief among some sections of Pakistan’s population that the efficiency displayed by the military within its own sphere can be extended via military government to the working of the state as a whole. This belief, however, is a mistake. Each time the military takes over the entire Pakistani system, it soon finds that the state is so weak that it has no choice but to work through the same old local elites, using the familiar methods of patronage, corruption and exploitation of kinship ties. The same features of the Pakistani military that work to save it from disintegration mar its ability to unify the country and transform it into a successful modern state.

4-14/IS

THE PLOTS THAT FAILED: Intelligence Lessons Learned from Unsuccessful Terrorist Attacks against the United States

By Erik J. Dahl

Studies in Conflict & Terrorism, Vol. 34, No. 8, June 2011, pp. 621-648.

While much of the focus of terrorism research is on successful terrorist attacks, the most significant lessons for terrorism prevention may come from examination of terrorist plots and attacks that do not succeed. This article analyzes 176 terrorist plots against American targets that have been thwarted or otherwise failed during the past 25 years. It considers what kinds of intelligence and security measures are most useful in counterterrorism, and argues that the conventional wisdom about why intelligence fails—because analysts and agencies are unable to “connect the dots”—is wrong. Most plots, especially domestic terrorist plots, are not foiled through imaginative analysis, but through conventional law enforcement efforts and aggressive domestic intelligence collection that reveal

to authorities just what the plotters are up to.

4-15/IS

RISING REGIONALISM AND PAKISTAN

By Stewart M. Patrick

Council on Foreign Relations, August 26, 2011.

<http://www.cfr.org/>

As the United States and Pakistan's relationship degrades to a precarious semi-alliance, Pakistan's neighbors and other nations in the region are quickly assessing how to respond. The region is glaringly under-institutionalized, with the exception of the moribund South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. In theory, much could be gained from a regional organization to promote economic cooperation, take full advantage of the region's energy resources, and address the area's rampant illegal drug trafficking. Furthermore, the U.S. drawdown in Afghanistan promises to further destabilize the fragile cooperation of the region. Regional confidence-building and eventual integration will be essential for sustainable peace and prosperity. The question is whether Pakistan's swelling population and large economy can be transformed into an asset.

4-16/IS

THE SOUTH CHINA SEA IS THE FUTURE OF CONFLICT

By Robert Kaplan

Foreign Policy, No. 188, September/October 2011, pp. 76-85.

The crucial difference between the 20th and 21st centuries, notes Kaplan, is that most of the contested areas in the world lay on dry land in Europe. In recent decades, more of the global economic and demographic center of gravity has shifted to Asia, where the spaces between major population centers are predominantly maritime. Kaplan predicts that the Western Pacific will become the world's new center of military contest, and will be primarily naval. Unlike land warfare, which enmeshes civilian populations, naval conflict is a more "clinical and technocratic affair ... returning military affairs to the narrow realm of defense experts." He believes that the U.S. may, over time, have to adjust to the reality of a Chinese deep-water navy; although competition is a given, armed conflict is far from inevitable. If China and the U.S. successfully manage a balance, Asia and the world could become more secure and prosperous.

4-17/IS

STRATEGIC LATENCY AND WORLD ORDER

By Zachary Davis

ORBIS, Vol. 55, No. 1, Winter 2011, pp. 69-84

The author, Senior Fellow at the Center for Global Security Research at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, writes that technological progress occurs unevenly and in an unpredictable fashion, with the potential of many discoveries remaining unappreciated for decades or longer. This also holds true for technologies which could confer military or economic advantage, but which remain untapped, a condition he terms "strategic latency". Davis notes that this is not necessarily due to inattention, but also to restraint, as in the case of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons, in which only a few nations have chosen to move from a civilian or research stage to a weapons program.

DEMOCRACY AND GLOBAL ISSUES

4-18/DGI

CORRUPTION REDUCTION: A Foreign Policy Goal and Instrument

By Amitai Etzioni

Harvard International Review, Vol. 32, No. 4, Winter 2011, pp. 22-27.

Curbing corruption is granted much importance these days because the US has shifted its strategy in Iraq, and even more so in Afghanistan, from a traditional military posture to counterinsurgency, in which winning the hearts and minds of the population is essential for victory. Such a shift in the population's loyalties is, in turn, thought to require developing a native partner government that is both legitimate and effective. Curbing corruption is considered to be an important element in developing such a government. While the idea of eradicating corruption in a society makes for an attractive op-ed headline, the goal of eliminating it altogether is not sociologically viable. At the same time, campaigning to reduce corruption by a mere "x percent" does not seem to be a goal that one can readily justify in the public sphere. The best way to proceed is to allow the native population to set and reset the norms that determine what level of corruption they consider acceptable.

4-19/DGI
DEALING WITH INEQUALITY

By Francis Fukuyama

Journal of Democracy, Vol. 22, No. 3, July 2011,
pp. 79-89.

This article explores the relationship between liberal democracy and socioeconomic equality, both on a theoretical and a practical level. It recounts both liberal and non-liberal arguments why democracies should or should not worry about de facto inequality, and then goes through a series of consequentialist arguments about why, alternatively, democracies should either worry about high persistent levels of inequality, or conversely, why attempts to remedy inequality through social policy is likely to have deleterious political or economic effects.

4-20/DGI
THE ROLE OF DIGITAL MEDIA

By Philip N. Howard and Muzammil M. Hussain

Journal of Democracy, Vol. 22, No. 3, July 2011,
pp. 35-48.

During the "Arab Spring," young tech savvy activists led uprisings in a dozen countries across North Africa and the Middle East. At first, digital media allowed democratization movements to develop new tactics for catching dictators off guard. Eventually, authoritarian governments worked social media into their own counter-insurgency strategies. What have we learned about the role of digital media in modern protest? Digital media helped to turn individualized, localized, and community-specific dissent into structured movements with a collective consciousness about both shared grievances and opportunities for action.

4-21/DGI
SOCIAL NETWORKS VS. GOVERNING AUTHORITY

By Nathan Gardels

New Perspectives Quarterly, Vol. 28, No. 2,
Spring 2011, pp. 2-5.

In this article the author discusses the need to balance social networks and legitimate governing authority towards the common good and long term sustained society. He mentions that imbalances between technologically-empowered diversity and sense of commonality will result to failure and divide democracy against itself. He also notes that the openness of information

offered by cyberspace are not all equal and thus needs disputation arenas to balance and contest conflicts of ideas.

4-22/DGI
THE STRUGGLE WITHIN ISLAM

By Robin Wright

Smithsonian, Vol. 42, No. 5, September 2011, pp.
104-114.

Extremists get the attention, but the forces of moderation are gaining ground among Muslims, Wright says. For the majority of Muslims today, the central issue is not a clash with other civilizations but rather a struggle to reclaim Islam's central values from a small but virulent minority. The new confrontation is effectively a jihad against The Jihad, says Wright; militant Islam has failed to deliver constructive solutions to the basic challenges of everyday life. While the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the United States killed almost 3,000 people, Muslim militants have killed more than 10,000 of their brethren in region wide attacks in the decade since. In 2010, public opinion polls in major Muslim countries showed dramatic declines in backing for Al Qaeda. "Today, Al Qaeda is as significant to the Islamic world as the Ku Klux Klan is to the Americans - not much at all," says Ghada Shahbender, an Egyptian poet and activist. "They exist, but they're freaks."

4-23/DGI
**TECHNOLOGY'S ROLE IN REVOLUTION:
Internet Freedom and Political Oppression**

By Evgeny Morozov

Futurist, Vol. 45, No. 4, July/August 2011, pp. 18-21.

The article explores the impact of Internet on the government worldwide. It discusses a brief overview on cyber-utopianism, a naïve belief in the emancipatory nature of online communication that rests on a stubborn refusal to acknowledge its downside. It relates the importance of Internet to bring out political corruption and other political issues. It explores the role of Internet in Middle Eastern democratic revolutions. It explains how Russian government handles or control the Internet and civic activism. It suggests several roles of cyber-realists in handling the Internet.

4-24/DGI

TOO YOUNG TO WED

By Cynthia Gorney

National Geographic, Vol. 219, No. 6, June 2011, pp. 78-99.

The article presents an overview of the global social problem of child marriage, in which girls as young as five are entered into secret and illegal arranged marriages with much older men in a variety of countries, including India, Afghanistan and Yemen. A discussion of the factors, including social ideals and poverty, which have allowed the problem of child marriage to continue, is presented.

4-25/DGI

UNDER THE SHRINKING U.S. SECURITY UMBRELLA: India's End Game in Afghanistan?

By C. Christine Fair

The Washington Quarterly, Vol. 34, No. 2, August 2011, pp. 179-192.

While the United States may be at the limits of its national power in balancing its interests among Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India, India too is experiencing its own limitations in the very region over which it claims hegemony. India may have to decide whether it wants to increase its influence and activities in Afghanistan, while encouraging further Pakistani adventurism in India and elsewhere, or whether it is prudent to scale back its objectives in Afghanistan to appease Pakistan. Much depends upon this decision. If India cannot effectively secure its interests in Afghanistan, how can India demonstrate that it has what it takes to be a power of any consequence outside of South Asia - much less globally?

4-26/DGI

UNGOVERNABLE

By Nawaz Shuja

The American Interest Online, September/October 2011.

<http://www.the-american-interest.com>

After a tumultuous 2010, Pakistan entered the second decade of the 21st century with many wondering if the country was nearing a proverbial tipping point, in this case one to be followed immediately by a sharp fall. Some feared that Pakistan's fragile government would implode, ushering in another military regime, a radical Islamic regime, or both in some hectic and probably bloody sequence. Some feared that the entire polity

would explode, giving rise to de facto partition and chaos. Such speculations are not entirely new. Pakistan's fragility has evoked worries about its political stability many times before. What is new about current worries is both how widespread they are and how broad the implications appear to be.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

4-27/ES

THE CASE AGAINST CASH

By David R. Warwick

Futurist, Vol. 45, No. 4, July/August 2011, pp. 46-47.

The article shows what governments need to do to advance digital transactions that improve society's safety and security. It questions why the U.S. government does not promoting alternatives to cash like advance cash transactions that would not only reduce violent crime, but also deter underground economic activity that goes untaxed. It explores whether the reduction of cash can reduce crime. It suggests that the government could speed its descent by imposing a federal tax on cash withdrawals from automated teller machines (ATMs) and on receiving cash back.

4-28/ES

COMPETING AGAINST FREE

By David J. Bryce and others.

Harvard Business Review, Vol. 89, No. 6, June 2011, pp. 104-111.

The authors discuss how established companies should respond to the "free" business models popularized in the digital world by companies such as Google, Adobe, and Mozilla, that are spreading to markets in the physical world. The "free" business models popularized in the digital world by companies such as Google, Adobe, and Mozilla are spreading to markets in the physical world. How should established companies respond? The authors have found that some are too quick to offer free products of their own. Many more either don't move quickly enough or simply fail to respond at all, even when they have the resources to win a head-to-head battle. Consider the reluctance of almost all U.S. newspapers to counter the attack on their classified advertising business from Craigslist. To determine the level of threat posed by a free-product

rival, a company should assess the rate at which its own paying customers are defecting versus how quickly the entrant's user base is growing.

4-29/ES

CURRENCY BLOCS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

By Fischer, Christoph

Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, September 2011.

<http://www.dallasfed.org/>

Based on a classification of countries and territories according to their regime and anchor currency choice, the study considers the two major currency blocs of the present world. A nested logit regression suggests that long-term structural economic variables determine a given country's currency bloc affiliation. The dollar bloc differs from the euro bloc in that there exists a group of countries that peg temporarily to the U.S. dollar without having close economic affinities with the bloc. The estimated parameters are consistent with an additive random utility model interpretation. A currency bloc equilibrium in the spirit of Alesina and Barro (2002) is derived empirically.

4-30/ES

AN EXORBITANT BURDEN

By Michael Pettis

Foreign Policy, posted September 7, 2011.

Michael Pettis, professor of finance at Peking University and senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, argues that keeping the U.S. dollar as the world's reserve currency imposes significant costs on the U.S. economy. He rejects as false a popular perception that, thanks to its currency's status, the U.S. enjoys low interest rates and ability to borrow and consume beyond its means. Instead, foreign accumulation of U.S. dollar assets causes the huge U.S. trade deficit, the low level of savings and high levels of private and public debt or makes these three conditions worse, Pettis says. But Washington is reluctant to create rules that would prevent countries from accumulating U.S. dollars for fear that such rules would signal a relative decline in the power of the U.S. economy. Calls for making an IMF basket of currencies – known as the Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) – the new global reserve currency are insincere at best, for no country is willing to accumulate SDRs, because of trade constraints. By moving in that direction, a country would be forcing trade deficits (and related currency appreciation) onto the countries whose currencies are included in the SDR, the author concludes.

4-31/ES

FINANCIAL REBALANCING ACT: Stop Worrying About Global Flow of Capital

By Alan M. Taylor

Foreign Affairs, Vol. 90, No. 4, Jul/Aug 2011, pp. 91-100.

According to Alan Taylor, a senior adviser at Morgan Stanley, the capital flow imbalance between developed and emerging economies is already adjusting. After the financial crises of the 1990s, emerging economies adopted policies for saving enormous official reserves as a way to cushion the next crisis. The odd result was that capital flowed from developing countries to wealthier developed countries, a historic reversal. The lower interest rates from the “savings glut” encouraged excessive financial risk taking in the developed countries, contributing to the 2007-2008 crisis and subsequent Great Recession. Having protected their economies through the crisis, the emerging economies are now building reserves more slowly as they spend more money on internal investment, consumption, and social safety nets. Developed countries, meanwhile, are also saving less while spending more on aging populations. As the global savings glut subsides, global interest rates are rising, and the flow of capital is moving more in the direction of the rapidly expanding emerging economies.

4-32/ES

THE IMPACT OF GLOBALIZATION ON INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT: The Downside of Integrating Markets

By Michael Spence

Foreign Affairs, Vol. 90, No. 4, Jul/Aug 2011, pp. 28-42.

Globalization is the process by which markets integrate worldwide. Over the past 60 years, it has accelerated steadily as new technologies and management expertise have reduced transportation and transaction costs and as tariffs and other man-made barriers to international trade have been lowered. The impact has been stunning. Until about a decade ago, the effects of globalization on the distribution of wealth and jobs were largely benign. But as the developing countries became larger and richer, their economic structures changed in response to the forces of comparative advantage: they moved up the value-added chain. The challenge for the US economy will be to find a place in the rapidly evolving global economy that retains its

dynamism and openness while providing all Americans with rewarding employment opportunities and a reasonable degree of equity. As the issue becomes more pressing, ideology and orthodoxy must be set aside, and creativity, flexibility, and pragmatism must be encouraged.

4-33/ES

INVESTING IN GROWTH

By Serkan Arslanalp and others.

Finance & Development, Vol. 48, No. 1, June 2011.

<http://www.imf.org>

The authors, all with the International Monetary Fund, write that policymakers in developing countries point to the lack of infrastructure as an impediment to growth and the difficulty in obtaining financing. The authors note that the important question is whether a country should expand its public investment; to explore the issue of the productivity of public infrastructure, they conducted a study of 48 advanced and developing nations during the period 1960-2001. They found that, overall, public investment has a positive effect on growth; however, the higher the levels of public capital stock, the growth effect of additional capital stock diminishes. In advanced economies with very high levels of public capital stock, the growth effect is close to zero, with public investment being used more as a demand management tool to counter the business cycle. Their study finds that for developing economies, the payoff is greater but accrues over a longer period of time.

4-34/ES

A MIGHTY WIND

By Kate Galbraith and Asher Price

Texas Monthly, August 2011, pp. 104-107+

Galbraith and Price discuss the history of the wind power industry in Texas. Despite its reputation as an oil producer, an unlikely alliance in Texas has created the country's largest wind energy industry, greatly surpassing California's wind farms' output. The Texas legislature and federal energy incentives provided the push towards wind energy. The authors note that many of the turbines are made in Europe and China, and that it is likely that the Texas wind power industry has reached its potential. They note that many people now complain about the noise from the turbines and the high-tension power lines on their properties.

4-35/ES

A TALE OF FOUR CRISES: The Politics of Great Depressions and Recessions

By James Kurth

ORBIS, Vol. 55, No. 3, June 2011, pp. 500-523.

The United States currently faces a series of challenges across a wide range of fields and theaters. These are the war in Afghanistan and the Islamist terrorist threat in much of the Muslim world, the new nuclear challenges from North Korea and Iran, the growing violence in Mexico, and the rising power of China. Each of these challenges is serious and taxing, and when they are combined they sometimes seem to be unprecedented and intractable. However, along with these military and political challenges, there is also an especially serious and taxing economic one, and that is posed by the current global economic crisis. It is this challenges which is foremost in the minds of most Americans at the present time and which is contributing the most to the atmosphere of anxiety and discouragement which now prevails in much of the United States. And it is this economic crisis and this pessimistic spirit which makes addressing and meeting the other challenges seem to be so difficult.

U.S. SOCIETY AND VALUES

4-36/SV

GOOGLE'S LOSS: The Public's Gain

By Robert Darnton

New York Review of Books, April 2011.

The seven years since Google launched its Google Book Search Project -- to digitalize all books that have ever been printed -- have been marked with a series of lawsuits for violation of copyright. Google has proposed settlements, but a recent court decision rejected their viability. This article explores where Google went wrong and what is right about such a project that would make literature more widely available. Darnton advocates using the lessons learned to create a digital public library that would offer access while giving copyright holders their due.

4-37/SV

THE MAKING AND MEANING OF PUBLIC ART

By Juilee Decker

Choice, Vol. 48, No. 10, June 2011, pp. 1827-1830+

To many Americans, public art invokes images of the paintings and murals that appeared in post offices and in other government buildings during the 1930s through the auspices of the Works Progress Administration or, more recently, through various neighborhood and school projects funded by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Chicago's network of public art is as vast as the city itself. In recent years, these projects have been accompanied with controversy generated by groups opposed to the expenditure of public funds on art, or who object to the subject matter of public art projects. The author, chair of the arts department at Georgetown College, writes that public art has emerged only recently as an academic field.

4-38/SV

HOW TO LAND YOUR KID IN THERAPY

By Lori Gottlieb

Atlantic Monthly, July/August 2011.

Is it possible for parents to do too much for their children? Yes, says therapist and mother Lori Gottlieb. It is possible that parents, by trying to protect their children from unhappiness, deprive them of happiness as adults. Overprotected children grow into adults who think something must be terribly wrong when they experience the normal frustrations of life. Kids need exposure to discomfort, failure, and struggle to learn how to be resilient and persevere -- qualities that lead to life fulfillment and success. And despite the spate of articles in recent years exploring why so many people in their 20s seem reluctant to grow up, the problem may be less that kids are refusing to separate and individuate than that their parents are resisting doing so. With families having fewer children and society offering less of a close-knit community, it may be that parents cling too closely to their children for companionship.

4-39/SV

THE MILLENNIALS: A Survey of the Most Cited Literature

By Lisa Beinhoff

Choice, August 2011, pp. 2225-2231.

Beinhoff, director of the library at New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Socorro, notes that large groups of individuals have shared unique traits based upon the time period in which they were born, a concept long been embraced by American society. This has been fueled by the social impact of America's rebellious baby boomer generation (born between 1946 and 1964). At the end of the 20th century, the "millennial generation," the children of the baby boomers, started to enter adulthood and the workforce. This essay identifies key readings in research about the millennial generation and discusses the most-cited works in the fields of education, business, sociology, psychology, religion, and technology that acknowledge the effects of the millennials.

4-40/SV

THE PAST AND FUTURE OF AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS

By Douglas S Massey

Daedalus, Vol. 140, No. 2, Spring 2011, pp. 37-55.

The existing body of civil rights law must be updated to establish within the U.S. Departments of Treasury, Labor, Commerce, and Housing and Urban Development permanent offices authorized to conduct regular audits in markets for jobs, goods, services, credit, and housing based on representative samples of market providers. A revitalized civil rights movement must return to and build on Lyndon Johnson's observation, it is not enough just to open the gates of opportunity.

4-41/SV

SEVEN ALL-AMERICAN CURIOSITIES

By Abigail Tucker and others.

Smithsonian, Vol. 42, No. 3, June 2011, pp. 50+

The authors explore seven off-beat American museums that should suit every distinguished taste, from the New Orleans Historic Voodoo Museum to the Kansas Barbed Wire Museum, and discuss the histories of the collections featured in those museums.

4-42/SV

WAY DOWN IN THE DELTA

By Colman Andrews

Country Living, Vol. 34, No. 6, June 2011, pp. 104-111.

One of America's iconic forms of music, the blues, which had its origins in American black spirituals, was born in the Mississippi Delta. For years, blues fans have made pilgrimages to the Delta to hear legendary blues musicians such as Muddy Waters, John Lee Hooker and Howlin' Wolf. Beginning in World War II, U.S. soldiers and other military personnel stationed in Europe and Asia introduced this form of American music to foreign audiences. Then there is the food which, in the Delta, means catfish which is raised in the region, and tamales, which fueled the blues clubs.

VIDEO ALERT

The following videos are available in the "Information, Research and Communication Unit in the U.S. Embassy, Islamabad. For more information, please call at 051-2082786

BOY SCOUTS OF HARLEM

DVD, 72 Minutes.

Be prepared to be amazed as Scout Troop 759 heads from the streets of Harlem to the woods of Camp Keowa. Eleven year old new scout Keith Dozier spends his first week at camp facing the challenges of the woods - the dock test in the deep dark lake, creepy creatures of the night, the daunting climbing tower, the raucous dining hall and the seductive Siberian sirens of the kitchen. With help from his fellow Scouts KC, Devon and Manny and wise Scoutmaster Sowah, young Keith faces the challenges and earns his place as a Scout. 759: Boy Scouts of Harlem is a warm, tender, and funny family documentary about Scouting in an unexpected place.

CONNECT WITH ENGLISH

DVD, 48 Fifteen-Minute Story Episodes

The most powerful way to motivate students to learn a new language is with a story. This is a new ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) series that brings the same effective method to speakers of other languages who are learning English. Through the story of Rebecca, an aspiring singer on a journey across

America, it touches on life's important issues: leaving home, parenting, education, work, love, success, and loss. All of the characters use meaningful, natural language that you can put to work immediately in your own life. At once an "American Dream" story, an appealing road movie, and a look at the current cultural landscape, this is a dramatic new way to learn English.

COUNSELING: A Guide for Teachers **DVD, 30 Minutes.**

Using a sensitive, real-world approach, this program assists teachers in understanding the process of counseling in high schools. It begins with a definition of counseling and goes on to explain the counseling process followed by a look at the variety of skills a counselor needs in order to work effectively with a young person. The program is also designed to assist teachers in understanding the process of adolescence itself and the developmental tasks that a young person will inevitably need to negotiate his or her high school years. Issues related to suicide prevention and mental health has been discussed. Produced and set in Australia. Viewable/printable educational resources are available online.

CYBERETHICS

Films.com, DVD, 14 minutes.

Most people learn traditional standards of behavior and respect for others by the time they are teenagers—but many don't realize that those rules are just as valid in cyberspace. This program helps students take the high road on the information superhighway and avoid the temptations of the fast lane, pointing the way toward an ethically sound Internet presence and lifestyle. Guidelines for the use of intellectual property are featured, with emphasis on the consequences of illegal downloading, copyright infringement, and plagiarism. Pornography, gaming sites, chat rooms, and online social networks are also discussed, helping viewers steer clear of antisocial and abusive activities, especially cyber-bullying.

FAMOUS AUTHORS - JOHN STEINBECK

DVD, 30 minutes, April 2006.

"Drawing on old maps, contemporary drawings and paintings, portraits and other archive material, the excellent Famous Authors series not only presents a factual outline of the writers' lives, but also conveys a clear visual picture of the social and historical back-

ground to their writing. The novelist John Steinbeck was best noted for his portrayal of the proletariat. His writing realistically depicted the economically depressed in the U.S., particularly the itinerant farm laborers of California. *Grapes of Wrath* is the novel which best fits this characterization. The subjects of Steinbeck's writing and fascination included the sea, traveling and common people. His fondness for the "unfinished children of nature" was a recurring theme in his novels. Steinbeck won a Pulitzer Prize in 1940 and the Nobel Prize for literature in 1962.

KICK LIKE A GIRL

HBO Documentary Films, 26 Minutes

"Kick Like a Girl" is the story of what happens when "The Mighty Cheetahs", an undefeated third grade girls soccer team competes in the boys division. With humor and honesty this documentary reveals the reality of the boy-girl issues and what "Kick Like a Girl" really means on and off the playing field. The film is narrated by 8 year old Lizzie, a self described soccer girl, who doesn't let juvenile diabetes, elbow blocks or grass stains interfere with her desire to compete. Refreshing and triumphant, Kick Like a Girl reminds us all of the lessons learned in competitive athletics and how sports has been one of the most effective instruments of social change in our lifetime.

PRINCE AMONG SLAVES

DVD, PBS, 60 minutes.

In 1788, the slave ship *Africa* set sail towards America, with precious cargo: hundreds of men, women, and children. Eight months later, a handful of survivors were for sale in Mississippi. One of them, 26-year-old Abdul Rahman, made an amazing claim: he was a prince of an African kingdom. *Prince Among Slaves* is the true story of an African Prince, who endured the humiliation of slavery without ever losing his dignity or hope for freedom.

SHOOTING WOMEN

DVD, Produced by Alexis Krasilovsky, 54 minutes.

This documentary features more than 50 camerawomen from around the world and provides an in-depth look at the lives of camerawomen and their struggles to succeed in a male-dominated field. From the secret films by camerawomen of the Taliban beating Afghani women, to historic footage by China's

first camerawomen of Mao's travels through the Chinese countryside... From the Hollywood crews of Ellen Kuras, Director of Photography of *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, to rural India, where subsistence-level women are taught camerawork as a means of empowerment, to the glowing young Senegalese camerawoman willing to climb onto a man's shoulders – literally – to get her subject, Professor Krasilovsky shows us a world of beauty, courage and technical skill.

BOOK ALERT

The following books are available in the "Lincoln Corner Islamabad at the International Islamic University, Islamabad. For more information, please call at 051-9257996.

COACHING WOMEN TO LEAD (Essential Coaching Skills and Knowledge)

By Averil Leimon and others

Routledge; 1 edition (October 22, 2010)

"Coaching Women to Lead is timely, relevant, and hugely inspiring! The authors effortlessly demonstrate an approach that goes beyond conventional wisdom, bringing it to life with real world success stories, and doing so in a true coaching style that harnesses the strengths and rewards that coaching women can bring. This is essential reading for not only coaches, but L&D professionals, C-Suite executives, and any manager looking to realize the full potential from their female colleagues/ businesses."

GIVE GREAT PRESENTATIONS: How to Speak Confidently and Make Your Point (Steps to Success)

By Jane Russell

A&C Black; Revised edition (November 15, 2010)

This practical book breaks down the process into manageable segments to help you build your case! Begin with a self-assessment quiz to identify your strengths as well as your biggest fears. Step-by-step guidance takes you through the entire presentation process from how to prepare a knockout speech and plot out summaries of your key points to quick ways to manage nerves to professional tips for boosting your message, dealing with unexpected problems, even

ways to use body language to win over your audience before you even utter a word!

HALF THE SKY: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide (Vintage)

By Nicholas D. Kristof

Vintage; Reprint edition (June 1, 2010)

Critics, universally inspired by *Half the Sky*, used their reviews as an opportunity to take up its message. They praised not only Kristof and WuDunn's clear moral stance and explanation of the issues but also the way they combined individual women's stories and practical advice to give the book an optimistic tone. Reviewers pointed out some flaws, particularly the authors' focus on individual action (such as providing a list of hospitals and schools to direct charity to) while neglecting to criticize the policies of Western governments. As more than one reviewer pointed out, Saudi Arabia, a country with one of the worst records of oppressing women, is a U.S. ally. Nevertheless, critics encouraged readers to pick up *Half the Sky*, which, according to the *Seattle Times*, "will ignite a grassroots revolution like the one that eliminated slavery."

MEASURING DEMOCRACY: A Bridge between Scholarship and Politics (Democratic Transition and Consolidation)

By Gerardo L. Munck

The Johns Hopkins University Press; 1 edition (February 25, 2009)

Although democracy is a widely held value, concrete measurement of it is elusive. Gerardo L. Munck's constructive assessment of the methods used to measure democracies promises to bring order to the debate in academia and in practice. Drawing on his years of academic research on democracy and measurement and his practical experience evaluating democratic practices for the United Nations and the Organization of American States, Munck's discussion bridges the theories of academia with practical applications. In proposing a more open and collaborative relationship between theory and action, he makes the case for reassessing how democracy is measured and encourages fundamental changes in methodology. Munck's field-tested framework for quantifying and qualifying democracy is built around two instruments he developed: the UN Development Programme's Electoral Democracy Index and a case-by-case election monitoring tool used by the OAS. *Measuring Democracy* offers specific, real-world lessons that scholars and practitioners

can use to improve the quality and utility of data about democracy.

THE DOCUMENTARY MOVIE MAKING COURSE: The Starter Guide to Documentary Filmmaking

By Kevin J. Lindenmuth

Barron's Educational Series (August 1, 2010)

Documentary films produced for TV, DVD, and movie theater distribution employ more filmmakers than any other genre, and are a popular career choice for beginners. Thanks to user-friendly equipment available today, you can get started in this burgeoning field even if you don't have a film-school background. This book shows how you can begin making documentary movies--from researching and defining your theme, style, and the treatment that gives your film coherence, to organizing the production, and ultimately, getting it seen by a wider audience. You will learn all the fundamentals: the essential equipment you must buy or rent for shooting and editing; the journalistic and production know-how for identifying interview subjects and locations and getting them on camera; the cinematic and editing skills that bring your material together for maximum impact; and the ability to find those key shots that will make your film a success.

THE INHERITANCE: The World Obama Confronts and the Challenges to American Power

By David E. Sanger

Broadway; Reprint edition (January 12, 2010)

The Inheritance reaffirms Thomas Jefferson's belief that for the American democracy to work there must be an informed citizenry. That means great reporting by great reporters is always required. David Sanger's book epitomizes the requirement. He goes through the world of challenges and opportunities that lie dead as well as ahead for the United States globally. Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, North Korea and China are on the list. So are matters nuclear and economic, among others. Sanger's telling is full of behind-the-door stories that read like Alan Furst spy novels. This is a superior work of journalism.