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Frames of Remembrance

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ume on student aggression is a sophisticated analysis of the problem which proposes a multicausally-based, comprehensive school-based intervention to deal with the problem. They are two more statements about doing the right thing. Unfortunately, something more is needed.

Frames of Remembrance, by Iwona Irwin-Zarecka. New Brunswick, N.J.: Transaction, 1994. 214 pp. \$32.95 cloth. ISBN 1-56000-138-0
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Iwona Irwin-Zarecka's treatise on collective memory may be of interest to those clinical sociologists interested in the construction of reality by "communities of memory" be they subcultures or the dominant culture.

In addition to the three narrative portions of the book, a fourth part provides a bibliography of English and French sources annotated with the author's comments about their usefulness for students of memory.

The book is in essence a series of essays concerning the importance of memory and how it is framed through public and private manipulation. The essential first part sets the Analytical Parameters where all readers are advised to start. From here it is suggested that one can pick and choose which chapters to read in whatever order desired. Indeed she suggests that Chapter Two, The "Ultimate Challenge," be left to read as a conclusion. An essential point regarding the formation and longevity of memory is that memory lies not so much in the minds of people but in the resources they use to remember. Resources may include public records, documentaries, books, and stories. But just because resources are available doesn't mean people will use them. Selective interpretation is used to "fit the data" into one's belief system, thus preserving integration.

Part II deals with the relevance of memory. What role does memory play for people and how does the past become important? This section demonstrates the fact that all memory of the same event isn't necessarily the same for all participants or witnesses. Memory conflict and the degree to which different groups, public and private, vie for their interpretation is dealt with in Chapter Four. The notion of framing as an analytical tool, borrowed from Erving Goffman's work, deals with how the public explanation of events exerts a powerful influence over how individuals interpret or make sense out of past events be they recent or

historical in nature. Agreeing with Goffman, the author is a situational determinist when it comes to explaining how people interpret their experiences and she asserts that the definition of the situation is largely a function of how things are framed. Shared frames of reference help explain behavior. Lacking a similar frame makes it difficult to understand or appreciate why people behave the way they do. Understanding the frame explains such things as why the Serbs and Croats are killing each other.

Part III is a provocative section that deals with what has been left out of our memory either from forgetfulness or by deliberate omission to control interpretation. Here we see the reverse of the "Big Lie": "That which is not publicly known and spoken about will be socially forgotten." The role of women, blacks, and others in history are examples of forgotten events which determined groups are now attempting to rectify through memory projects of different kinds.

As multiculturalism gains public favor more and more subcultural groups will press for greater recognition of their place in history. Using Canada as an example, she raises the specter of greater divisiveness in society which this ethnic "meism" may engender. These moves to highlight the accomplishments and self-worth of one's subculture may militate against the melting pot concept of an integrated community.

Ms. Irwin-Zarecka has made another significant contribution to what is becoming a major field of social science inquiry. Her plea for cross-disciplinary work is well taken. However, characterizing herself as a cultural sociologist is less boundary lessening than if she said that she is simply a social scientist. Perhaps her frame of reference wouldn't allow this!

Self-Conscious Emotions: The Psychology of Shame, Guilt, Embarrassment, and Pride, edited by June Price Tangney and Kurt W. Fischer. New York: The Guilford Press, 1995. 542 pp., \$45.00 cloth. ISBN 0-89862-264-6
Elizabeth Dermody Leonard
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Social scientists with an interest in emotions and behavior will find much to offer in this volume of current research and theory on self-conscious emotions. Drawing from developmental and clinical psychology, psychiatry, and sociology, this collection emphasizes the social basis of self-conscious emotions and describes their general characteristics. Several chapters provide useful reviews of theoretical and empirical literature on self-conscious emotions. However, except for