Edited by Sarita Albagil and Maria Lucia Maciel, this resource assesses the various ways in which information and communication technologies, or ICTs, both provide users with the tools to overcome social and economic inequalities, as well as support and extend new forms of inequality. Articles propose ways to use ICTs to both strengthen and empower the socially marginalized and incorporate “semi-peripheral countries” into the global information system. The book elucidates the impact of ICTs both as instruments of empowerment and as tools for privileging certain narratives to the unfair exclusion of others. - RM

This book revisits the role of museums as “advocates of inclusion”, “places of values”, and “incubators of community,” and provides a useful framework for identifying how museums can better leverage opportunities for community engagement and respond to shifting social conditions. Concepts are applied broadly to accommodate the diversity in museums and the communities in which they are situated, providing a timely and relevant guide to the processes involved in meaningful engagement with the public. -RM

Bastian examines the relationship between archives, communities and collective memory. Using the example of the United States Virgin Islands, a former colony of Denmark, the author explores the effects of colonization in undermining Virgin Islanders’ ability to author their own history and collective memory. This book is a useful resource for illustrating how colonized communities can regain control over their collective memory, and how archives can enable this process. -RM
Integrity and ethics are described in this text as personal, crossing a wide spectrum from legal to moral. The author does not define an ethical code, but offers a personal interpretation of ethics in libraries as a conversation rather than an enforceable code. The author extends Ranganathan’s Five Laws of Librarianship to include the digital realm, observing trends and practices of ethical library blogging and social networking. The author describes libraries as living organisms that must adapt to the changing world, but cautions librarians to be conscientious of the core values and responsibilities of a librarian. –TS

Michael F. Brown offers a provocative look at issues surrounding indigenous traditional knowledge, ownership and the wrongful appropriation of indigenous ideas, signs and symbols. Drawing on a combination of theory and case studies, Brown shows how indigenous artistic and practical inventions permeate our popular culture. But as Brown argues, these communities are rarely compensated fairly for the use of their cultural heritage. The book weighs the various implications of this “cultural theft” on indigenous communities, and documents how these communities attempt to reclaim control over their heritage by redefining heritage as a proprietary resource. -RM

Lonnie G. Bunch III is the director of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture, and is well-established in both professional and scholarly circles. This book, a collection of his work from the mid-1980s to present, addresses a wide range of personal and professional issues concerning history, race, and the role of the museum. The book provides a thoughtful reference for those readers concerned with the evolution of ideas related to race and the museum. - RM

This is an anthology of articles from Knowledge Quest, the American Association of School Librarians’ official journal about school library media programs. The articles included here cover issues of civic engagement, social justice, and democracy (amongst others), as well as the best practices for promoting them in schools. The specific topics addressed here include race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, and ethical practices. – LC

This book reveals the ways in which African women have adopted information and communication technologies (ICTs) to empower themselves and their communities. Drawing on extensive field research by both scholars and activists conducted in their own respective communities, this book frames ICTs as agents of change, creating the conditions that enable women to overcome existing barriers to education and financial independence. -RM


Alex Byrne's *The Politics of Promoting Freedom of Information and Expression in International Librarianship* is a seminal work for the library professional. The Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE) and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) are used as case studies in Byrne’s book to offer the reader two uncommon examples of international professional associations in transition. This book explores the politics of freedom of information and a new professionalism in librarianship. -MM


Established researcher Richard J. Cox revisits the social, moral, and ethical impact of archival work. Cox provides an articulate and comprehensive overview of the discourse concerning the various moral, social and ethical implications of archival activity, using case studies and examples to place his ideas in context. Topics of discussion include archival education, professional ethics, archival appraisal, and transformative technologies, secrecy and scandals. Echoing the trend towards more a user-oriented archive, Cox offers suggestions for generating more equitable access to archival materials. –RM


Cox and Wallace interrogate the role of the modern archive in protecting public accountability. The case studies in this collection deconstruct examples to better elucidate how archives as record repositories serve as sites of public accountability. Provocative examples used include the case of the Martin Luther King, Jr. papers, the destruction of records on Nazi war criminals in Canada, and forgery and corruption of recordkeeping systems. The book is a reflection of both author’s personal and professional experiences, and ongoing discussions within the discipline more generally. The book provides a single, comprehensive guide to key discussions concerning the intersection between record keeping and accountability. -RM


The author recasts the archivist as an active agent of historical meaning-making whose actions have significant ethical implications. This book evaluates the connection between archival work and social responsibility, and suggests the need for balanced and accurate historical records. The book uses a selection of case studies to illustrate ethics as an applied practice. Challenging assumptions on the impartiality of the archivist as custodian, Danielson raises various ethical considerations intended to redefine the responsibilities of the archivist. -RM

Steven C. Dubin, author of the critically acclaimed *Arresting Images*, offers readers a critical evaluation of some of the most controversial museum exhibitions of the 1990s. Themes explored include exhibitions on slavery, ethnicity, Freud, the Old West, and the dropping of the atomic bomb by the *Enola Gay*. Dubin frames the American museum as a contested site where control over expression of ideas concerning politically sensitive art is fiercely debated between competing perspectives. -RM


Echoing existing political, social and cultural dichotomies, this book elucidates how issues of gender and embodiment are transposed onto cyberspace. As new technologies become increasingly implanted in our lives, Du Preez emphasizes the need to interrogate how these technologies support and extend gender divisions. The author reveals the ways in which technologies are inherently gendered, drawing on a combination of history and theory to situate her arguments within feminist media theory. The book offers readers a useful frame of reference for evaluating the embodiment of new technologies. -RM


This book evaluates key characteristics of web-based activism and their implications. In particular, the authors posit that the web offers at minimum two key affordances concerning activism: reduced costs for creating, organizing and participating in protest activities, and a reduced need for activists to physically unite for joint participation. The book is a thoughtful resource offering insight into the ideas and processes directing digitally enabled social activism on the web. -RM


This book refigures the relationship between libraries and cultural rights—a relationship that has until recently received relatively little attention. Though librarians have traditionally been concerned with protecting individual rights and freedoms, little has been written concerning the role libraries will serve in protecting and extending group, and more specifically cultural, rights. Organized as a series of essays, this book encourages librarians to consider the broader social and cultural implications of their work, and provides a useful framework for understanding the library as an instrument for supporting human rights. -RM

This book documents the history of 1990s North American Riot Grrl culture, a seemingly-ephemeral feminist movement that found a voice in the publication of underground zines. By the year 2000, the artefacts of this movement began to migrate from personal collections to community-based collections and academic archives. This book traces the migration of these publications from attic to archive, contextualizing them and locating them within the collective memory of the feminist movement as a whole – LC


We live in a world where numbers dominate economies, global politics, and as a result out everyday lives. In this book, Fioramonti reveals the darker side of statistics; the hidden agendas and those who control them. He shows how numbers have been used to reinforce power of the market on our social and political life which in turn affects public participation and the potential to engage in rational debate. -KW


Roderick Graham uses three case studies of how African Americans use information and communication technologies (ICTs) to illustrate how minority groups can work through ICTs to overcome historical inequalities. Graham argues that scholars focus too much on the technological and economic aspects of ICTs and therefore miss the impact that ICTs have on the social processes that occur in everyday life. - KW


This collection features essays from prominent writers, including Noam Chomsky, Christine Pawley and Sam Trosow. The book attempts to lay out a foundation of core library values, and then questions the way in which these values have been co-opted in the name of ahistoricism, neutrality, and neoliberalism. The authors and editors work to illustrate how critical information literacy differs from standard definitions of information literacy, in that it takes into consideration the social, political, economic, and corporate systems that influenced information production and dissemination. – LC

This book recasts archives not simply as sources but as sites of contested knowledge. The essays in this book are organized according to three themes. In the first instance, readers are offered new ways of thinking about the archives, and methods for extending its boundaries and substantiating its exclusions. The second theme concerns the making of the archive(s), and interrogates existing processes of recording and remembering, omitting and forgetting. The third theme concerns the effort to widen and shift the meaning of the term archive, to include material traditionally excluded from the archive. This book elucidates how archival activity may inadvertently support and extend existing power dichotomies, without proper interrogation. -RM


Verne Harris is an established scholar within the field of archives and social justice. This book is a collection of essays and newspaper articles written by Harris between 1994 and 2005 and explores how archives serve as tools for transformation in post-apartheid South Africa. Harris offers a provocative look at the power vested in archives as sites for shaping social memory and appeals to archivists to reject their view of archives as static, stable and uncontested. Harris frames records as fluid and continuously shaped and reshaped in the process of archival activity (i.e. arrangement and description). This book is a powerful reminder that archives are not the innocent by-product of uncontested activity, but a reflection of the values and narratives imposed by their keepers. -RM

Jimerson, R.C. *Archives power: Memory, accountability, and social justice*. Chicago, IL: The Society of American Archivists. 025 J61A

Grounded in both social and historical theory, this book is an essential resource for readers concerned with how archives are implicated in shaping collective memory, public accountability, and social justice. Historian Randall C. Jimerson appeals to archivists to renew their interest in remembrance, evidence, and documentation. He frames the archivist as an active agent whose actions inadvertently affect the way records in their possession are used and maintained. Jimerson devotes most of the book to examples of how archivists exert control over the use and maintenance of recorded material. This is helpful in making visible subtle forms of power and influence imposed on records by their custodians, and challenges existing notions on the archivist as impartial, neutral and inherently honest. -RM


This foundational text offers readers a comprehensive introduction to the primary topics, debates, and theoretical approaches concerning the interplay between gender and media studies. The book, organized as a selection of critical essays, broadly depicts how gender is constructed within media culture. Drawing on key voices within both media studies and gender studies discourse, the text facilitates reader comprehension through individual section introductions to contextualize the chapter content. –RM

Scholar Jaron Lanier is credited with being among the first to predict the transformative effects of the World Wide Web on culture and commerce. In this seminal work, he delivers a provocative critique on how digital design is shaping society, both for better and for worse. The book weighs the benefits and implications of the current design and function of the web, warning that poorly considered digital design could have significant social, cultural and socioeconomic implications if left unchecked. -RM


*Gender, sexuality, and museums* is one of the only significant collections of key articles, new essays, and case studies concerning gender and sexuality in museums. This book is organized according to three categories: women in museum work; applications of feminist and LGBT theories to museum exhibitions; and exhibitions and collections concerning women and LGBT individuals. The fourth and final part provides a series of timely and relevant case studies demonstrating concepts raised throughout the text. This book is seminal for those concerned with how gender and sexuality are embodied within the museum. -RM


Compiled by an international and interdisciplinary group of academics and practitioners, this text explores museum ethics as a dynamic social practice fundamental to enacting change in museums. Recognizing that ethics are embedded in all areas of museum practice, this volume addresses diverse strands from exhibitions to marketing. The authors bring an interesting perspective into museum ethics—understanding them as intertwined with complex economic, social, political, and technological forces. Essentially, this book argues for a museum ethics discourse defined by social responsibility, transparency and shared guardianship of heritage. This text is unique in that it eschews the notion of proprietary professional ethics in favour of an ethical code that is self-reflexive and activist in nature. –TS


Museums and Social Activism examines accounts of the civil rights-related movements that took place on the Smithsonian Mall in the ‘60s and ‘70s. Author Kylie Message makes use of interdisciplinary field-based research to detail the transformation and activism within the National Museum of American History during that time period. This book works to create an understanding of the relationships between contemporary museums, political stakeholders and the public, while addressing the topic of nationhood, citizenship, and belonging in the United States of America. –LC

People who work in libraries who are interested or directly involved in social justice struggles have long sought to make use of their skills in the service of different causes. This book examines aspects of activist librarianship including movement archives, zine collections, international solidarity, public library programming, oral histories, and protests to introduce the reader to the projects and pursuits of activist librarianship in the early 21st century. - KW


Authors John Pateman and John Vincent appeal to library professionals to address social injustice and exclusion by enabling access to resources. The authors argue that libraries must discard outdated ideas of supporting excellence and embrace the equity agenda by empowering marginalized communities with the information that will allow them to bridge the equity gap. The book provides a useful historical context for understanding social exclusion, and proposes practical solutions to transform the public library to better address the needs of new audiences. - RM


Nonprofit does not always mean non-political. This book seeks to define advocacy and clarify the differences between advocacy lobbying, political activity, and education. It provides a critical look at the different roles that advocacy efforts of nonprofits play in society and how nonprofits are attempting to engage communities and governments in this era of retrenchment.

- KW


Tribal information centres often provide the same services as any library, but they are unique in their commitment to specific tribal protocols and rituals. These tribal information centres work as both libraries and archives, spreading knowledge and disseminating information while working to preserve culture and tradition. This is a collection of articles and essays where tribal librarians and archivists share their stories and experiences. – LC

Toni Samek provides an insightful and comprehensive summary of the years of political infighting that occurred within the American Library Association between 1967 and 1974. Samek describes in extensive detail the conflict between the traditional concept of professional neutrality and the new philosophy that framed librarians as agents of social change. This book is a useful historical reference for understanding the ongoing debate surrounding the librarian’s role and the degree to which librarians should engage in political or social activity. -RM


This book is organized in two parts, the first concerning “Rhetoric,” and the second entitled “The Reality.” Topics include human rights, contestations and the moral responsibilities of library and information workers, practical strategies for social action, prevalent manifestations of social action in library and information work, and specific forms of social action that engender social change. The author casts library and information workers as participants and interventionists in social conflicts, and draws on examples and case studies to document the range of critical library and information work worldwide. -RM


This book is a study of current issues facing museums in terms engaging diverse audiences and lending greater depth and perspective to the framing of historical narratives. In particular, there is greater professional and scholarly interest in the potential for museums to take up an activist standpoint on human rights issues and engage visitors in debates pertaining to social justice. The influence of this interest can be felt in the practices, programming and policies of contemporary museums. – LC


This timely and relevant book brings together twenty researchers, practitioners, and academics from various disciplines and contexts to explore the representation of disabled people. The authors appeal for greater inclusion of disability-related narratives in museum and art gallery exhibitions, emphasizing the social responsibility of cultural institutions in supporting and extending social identities. The book surveys the various ethical, interpretative, and pragmatic challenges raised when attempting to resolve the lack of disability-related narratives currently in circulation in museums and galleries. –RM

Organized by editors Paul Turnbull and Michael Pickering, this book applies an interdisciplinary lens to reflect critically on the various historical, cultural, ethical and scientific aspects of repatriation. Case studies are used to illustrate the impact of repatriation on those involved, and to help illustrate the concepts introduced. Drawing on a wide range of researchers from various disciplines within the humanities and social sciences, the book critically evaluates the process of repatriation and its resulting implications. –RM


These essays outline the special issues concerning librarians born between 1961 and 1981. The book offers insights into how “Generation X” librarians have developed their practice to respond to issues existing outside the library, including evolving management and leadership practices, transformative technologies, environmental degradation and the implications of social attitudes and stereotypes perpetuated within popular culture. The book is a useful reference for emerging library and information professionals concerned with grasping the unique challenges imposed on this generation. -RM


Gregory J. Walters uses historical and ethical lenses to examine the issues of privacy and security in the information economy. Walters begins by describing the birth of the information revolution and the considerations of human rights that have developed alongside this revolution. Using both North American and wider global perspectives, Walters discusses policies related to the information highway and e-commerce, and issues surrounding privacy and security. A chapter is dedicated to the ethical analysis of privacy and security issues with specific attention paid to information technology and human rights. Lastly, Walters dedicates two chapters to the discussion of information warfare and global surveillance: here, he examines the development of and policy implications resulting from information warfare. -BD

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