

present-day situations. And finally, although the book is based on the author's dissertation, awarded in 1976, her preparations for publication do not seem to have included a thorough review of the recent literature: there are only three references dated later than 1977 in a period marked by the publication of several works directly relevant to her topic.

The virtues of this volume lie in its convenience and overall perspective. Regrettably, it is also an example of an approach where variation is smoothed over, where structural factors are not considered, and where analysis is bypassed in favor of exposition. However, it would be useful in undergraduate medical anthropology or cross-cultural perspectives on health and healing courses and as an introduction for nonanthropological health workers, especially in ethnically diverse areas including Chinatowns.

Through a Glass Darkly: Beer and Modernization in Papua New Guinea. Mac Marshall, ed. Boroko, PNG: The Institute of Applied Social and Economic Research, 1982. Pp. xvii + 482 (bibliography, glossary), n.p. (paperback).

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Of the scholars who have labored in the vineyards of comparative alcohol use in recent years, Mac Marshall is surely one of the most productive. His are among the most notable efforts to elevate the status of alcohol studies from epiphenomenal to focal interest within anthropology.

The present edited volume is a result of a national alcohol project conducted by the Institute of Applied Social and Economic Research of Papua New Guinea, and contains the insights of over 30 behavioral scientists from seven different countries. Case studies of alcohol use are reported for societies in the highland, highland fringe, coastal, and island regions of Papua New Guinea. The findings of these case studies are examined for evidence of a national drinking pattern and are sifted for policy implications relevant to regulating national alcohol consumption.

The title of the volume reflects the prospects of indigenous societies caught up in the processes of modernization. Papua New Guinea is diagnosed by members of the IASER Alcohol Project team as "poised on the brink" (p. 460); the nation has yet to be plagued by major social, economic, and health problems related to alcohol abuse. However, as drinking becomes viewed as a symbolic act of integration with modern consumer society, and as beer becomes entrenched as a medium of exchange mediating between cash and prestige economies, the continuation of current consumption trends will exacerbate these present ills. Marshall et al. have used a wealth of ethnographic data to frame policy recommendations to regulate drinking so that the potential danger to rural areas undergoing modernization will be minimized. The "bright prognosis" for developing a healthy national attitude toward alcohol use that Marshall makes for Papua New Guinea will be facilitated in part when government officials act on recommendations tendered in this volume.

The volume has a number of apparent strengths. Attention to ethnographic detail is meticulous. Given the enormous cultural diversity of Papua New Guinea, the strategy

of presenting case materials by geographic provenience is an effective one. While the primary focus of the work is on modernization (as exemplary articles by Poole, Herdt, and Darrouzet demonstrate), the use and abuse of alcohol is presented in holistic perspective. Drinking is examined in light of such other behaviors as ritual, exchange, ethos, self-identity, social organization and control, and the use of other mood-altering substances. The essay by Schieffelin on the cultural dimensions of abusive drinking is illustrative of the contextual richness of the book. Of further significance is the presentation of viewpoints by native scholars and government officials. The inclusion of an essay by self-admitted "outsider" Robin Room not only provides the reader with a sensitive interpretive summary by a prominent alcoholologist, but also nicely echoes the sense of the ethnographic enterprise. A glossary and an informative biographical sketch of each contributor is thoughtfully provided.

Shortcomings of the work are relatively minor, especially in light of the virtual absence of a literature on alcohol use in Oceania. My criticism is limited largely to those instances wherein my interest was piqued but not satisfied. Most of the book is devoted to the 20 years following deprohibition in Papua New Guinea. Readers would benefit from an extended consideration of patterns antecedent to and concurrent with prohibition. The question of whether styles of drunken comportment in Papua New Guinea resulted from diffusion or independent invention is not pursued to my satisfaction. While a number of insightful policy recommendations are proposed, they are given relatively short shrift. One can envision a companion volume that would elaborate upon these suggestions and detail implementation strategies. As is unfortunately the case in most contemporary alcohol studies, the perspective of the female drinker is largely ignored (the article by Chowning is exceptional in this regard). Finally, while prevention of abusive drinking is discussed in some of the articles, the treatment of alcoholism in Papua New Guinea is nowhere addressed.

This volume might best be used as a recommended text in courses covering alcohol use in cross-cultural perspective, modernization and development, or applied anthropology and social policy. Medical anthropologists will find it useful primarily as a survey of the social context of substance use, rather than as a clinical examination of the sequelae of alcoholism. This book is another demonstration of the potential value of ethnographic research as a social policy tool.

Uprooting and Surviving: Adaptation and Resettlement of Migrant Families and Children. (Priority Issues in Mental Health, Vol. 2.) Richard C. Nann, ed. Dordrecht, Netherlands: D. Reidel, 1982. Pp. xvi + 194 (2 indexes). \$32.50 (hardcover).

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This volume presents 17 papers from the 1977 and 1979 congresses of the World Federation for Mental Health. There is considerable variation both in quality and