

Ultimately, Devine has chosen sides in a debate that she never explains to the audience. As such, she overlooks an excellent opportunity to contribute to a broader discussion in gender history and theory beyond the agricultural field.

Devine does, though, accomplish something unusual and admirable: she blends scholarly, analytical interpretation with a highly readable narrative that will appeal to diverse specialists and general audiences. This is certainly not just a book for women; it provides a lively portrayal of relations between men and women and a window into rural community life that will engage individuals interested in the history and culture of Iowa, as well as the agricultural history of the Midwest. This study is also welcome for its fascinating account of the particular difficulties experienced in rural Iowa during the understudied Cold War period. Additionally, the book provides thoughtful insight into the pre-World War II years, despite the somewhat misleading subtitle. Devine's work is a good example of how a local study can help us better understand the complexities of broader historical developments. She crafts a rich narrative culled from correspondence, oral histories, and other material left by community organizations and members, a difficult task. Overall, Devine has produced a work that is a valuable contribution to the small but steady trickle of scholarship on rural women, and it will certainly provoke a good deal of discussion among those interested in the topic.

*The Amish*, by Donald B. Kraybill, Karen M. Johnson-Weiner, and Steven M. Nolt. The Companion to American Experience/PBS. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2013. xvi, 500 pp. Maps, tables, graphs, illustrations, appendixes, notes, bibliography, index. \$29.95 hardcover.

Reviewer Rod Janzen is professor of history at Fresno Pacific University. He is a coauthor of *The Hutterites in North America* (2010).

Donald Kraybill, Karen Johnson-Weiner, and Steven Nolt's comprehensive work, *The Amish*, is an important and all-encompassing introduction to Amish life in North America. This helpful "companion" work to the PBS series *American Experience* provides in-depth analysis and insights while not omitting discussion of the extensive diversity found among the hundreds of Amish settlements and church districts in existence in the 2010s.

The writers themselves are without question the reigning experts on Amish life. Kraybill, a sociologist, has been conducting research on the Amish the longest (and he has also published the most books and

articles). In *The Amish* he collaborates with linguistic anthropologist Johnson-Weiner and historian Nolt (both of whom have also published books on the Amish). Their book is very well written, which is not always the case when books have multiple authors with at times divergent voices. That is not a problem in this highly readable work.

The book is well organized in five general sections. The writers begin appropriately with a "historical roots" section, moving on to a discussion of cultural context, social organization, and external ties. There is also a section on future prospects. The book includes many helpful photographs, maps, charts, and graphs providing important historical, economic, and demographic data. It is ideal for anyone interested in Amish history or contemporary beliefs and practices. Because the authors have been given almost 425 pages of text, they are also able to discuss the tremendous diversity found in the Amish world.

Amish diversity is expressed in an assortment of *Ordnung* regulations and organizational affiliations that show differences of opinion on dress, use of electricity, and other matters, and especially the way that church discipline is administered. As the authors note, "Despite *Ordnungs* that are similar, the practices of districts within an affiliation are not uniform in every detail because ecclesial authority rests in each local district" (138).

While introducing readers to general "community rhythms" relevant to most Amish communities, the book also discusses the increasingly difficult task of finding reasonably priced farm land, and the subsequent movement of large numbers of Amish into non-agricultural pursuits. That is especially true in heavily populated areas such as Lancaster County in southeastern Pennsylvania (295). Amish communities continue to be established throughout the United States. The authors note that more than 40 percent of present-day Amish settlements were in fact started since 2000!

The authors also discuss the impact of tourism on Amish communities, the Amish view of government, and relationships with non-Amish neighbors. One chapter devoted entirely to issues of health includes subtitles such as "birthing," "the right to refuse care," and "immunization." An appendix provides helpful comparative introductions to Mennonites, Brethren, and Hutterites.

Iowans will have particular interest in this book. There are 58 church districts in the state, comprising more than 8,000 people, with a significant population center in rural areas of Johnson County, southwest of Iowa City. The authors include data (p. 264) that indicate that students in the 12 Amish private schools operating in Johnson County

scored near national norms on the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (in grade 8, Amish children scored significantly higher than the norm).

In general, this is an essential work for anyone interested in the Amish, whether that interest is originally sparked by neighbors, news accounts, public portrayals, or “Amish” products found in stores in different parts of North America. It is an essential work on the Amish for both those who begin with little knowledge and those who would like to update their understanding of this unique plain Christian community.

*Latin American Migrations to the U.S. Heartland: Changing Social Landscapes in Middle America*, edited by Linda Allegro and Andrew Grant Wood. *The Working Class in American History*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2013. xiii, 344 pp. Graphs, notes, references, tables, index. \$65.00 hardcover.

Reviewer Felipe Hinojosa is assistant professor of history at Texas A & M University. He is the author of the forthcoming *Latino Mennonites: Civil Rights, Faith, and Evangelical Culture*.

The Midwest has long been a place characterized by traditional American values of individualism, hard work, and conservative politics. As some say, it is the place where the “real Americans” live. And yet, it is also a region that carries eclectic political orientations, where rural and urban markers matter, and where changing demographics are redefining the very heart of American identity. Those changing demographics and the controversies they have fueled are at the center of an excellent collection of essays edited by Linda Allegro and Andrew Wood. Much of what the public knows about Latin American immigration to the Midwest is often tainted by xenophobic sentiments that ignore the underlying complexities and mixed perspectives that white, black, and native midwesterners hold about immigration.

Intent on presenting a different picture of immigration, Allegro and Wood organized a volume that provides a more humane depiction of Latin American immigrants by carefully documenting the challenges and possibilities they present in the region. The editors argue that the Midwest, with its open fields and small-town feel, creates unique possibilities for Latin American immigrants, many of whom come from their own heartlands in Mexico or Guatemala. Notions of the heartland in the United States, as the editors note, help to forge strong connections between midwesterners in Iowa and immigrants whose origins are often quite similar. Both, for example, have been hit hard by structural economic policies such as NAFTA and GATT,