

Urban History Review Revue d'histoire urbaine

URBAN HISTORY REVIEW
REVUE D'HISTOIRE URBAINE

Young, Ken, ed., *Essays on the Study of Urban Politics*.
Hamden, Conn.: Shoe String Press, Inc., 1975. Pp. xviii, 208.
\$15,00

W. T. Wooley

Number 2-77, October 1977

URI: <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/1019575ar>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7202/1019575ar>

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Publisher(s)

Urban History Review / Revue d'histoire urbaine

ISSN

0703-0428 (print)

1918-5138 (digital)

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Cite this review

Wooley, W. T. (1977). Review of [Young, Ken, ed., *Essays on the Study of Urban Politics*. Hamden, Conn.: Shoe String Press, Inc., 1975. Pp. xviii, 208. \$15,00]. *Urban History Review / Revue d'histoire urbaine*, (2-77), 122-123.
<https://doi.org/10.7202/1019575ar>

make this an excellent way of entering into and expanding one's knowledge of a rapidly growing field.

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Young, Ken, ed., Essays on the Study of Urban Politics. Hamden, Conn.: Shoe String Press, Inc., 1975. Pp. xviii, 208. \$15.00.

In his foreword to Essays on the Study of Urban Politics, Edward Banfield notes the lack of progress during the past two decades in creating systematic and cumulative knowledge about urban political behavior. Indeed, he concludes, "there are not half a dozen general and non-trivial scientific propositions which an urban political scientist can offer to the waiting world." Unfortunately, Ken Young's collection of essays does little to relieve this dreary picture. It does not even satisfactorily fulfill its more modest purpose which is to both survey recent developments in the field and indicate new directions for useful research.

In short, Young's book is a hodge-podge of studies largely devoted to the intellectual hobby-horses of the various contributors. Most of the essays yield only a few lines of distilled wisdom, and to get to that wisdom the general reader must hack his way through a dense jungle of social scientific jargon. "Inputs", "throughputs", and "outputs" abound, especially in Janet Lewis' chapter entitled, "Variations in Service Provision: Politics at the Lay-Professional Interface". Inadvertently, the book provides excellent examples of some of the blind alleys of statistical research, and, in particular, it reveals the frustrations of trying to fit complex political phenomena into relatively simple theoretical formulations.

Yet, despite these problems, the book is far from being a dead loss: in fact, about a third of the essays are well worth reading. Kenneth Newton's discussion of community politics and decision-making contains an excellent critical review of previous research as well as a useful consideration of questions that still need to be answered. Oliver Williams provides a lucid description of urbanism as a type of human ecology, and the editor, Ken Young, contributes a fascinating essay which applies recent research in national and international integration to the problems of unifying metropolitan areas.

This book was originally published in England primarily for an English readership. Thus much space is devoted to considering the applicability of North American research to the British context, an exercise that produces some interesting comparative analysis. For the most part, however, the essays are a celebration of the English political scientist's discovery of statistics and of his confidence (despite Banfield's reservations) that a whole batch of general scientific propositions are about to spew out of the computers. Unless the reader shares such optimism, he will find in Young's book a pretentiousness that is often both naive and superficial. There is little success here in making a science out of the study of urban politics.

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Archdeacon, Thomas J. New York City, 1664-1710: Conquest and Change.
 New York: Cornell University Press, 1976. Pp. 169. \$9.75.

For a half century following the English capture of Dutch New York in 1664, the city underwent a steady ethnic transformation. Within two decades the steady influx of English newcomers and their French Huguenot allies would dominate the Dutch economic, political