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REVIEW: Georgia Legal Research

Duke C. Darkwolf

Dougherty County Public Library

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Colors of Africa by James Kilgo
(University of Georgia Press, 2007;
ISBN 978-08203-3017-4, \$16.95,
pbk).

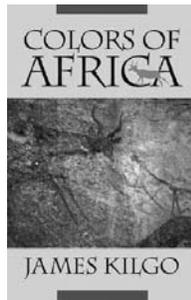
James Kilgo, invited to travel to Africa with a safari group in the spring of 2000, views his unexpected opportunity with conflicting emotions: excitement, wariness and trepidation.

Although he intends to shoot only with his camera, he is part of a group intent on bringing home big game trophies, such as zebra, kudu, leopard and lion. Kilgo, fighting an insidious cancer himself, ponders issues of life and death even as he describes the beauty and brutality of Africa. He visits villages and keenly observes traditions; he explores the bush and observes life and death within the animal kingdom. He writes with eloquence, power and sincerity about the majestic landscape of Africa. The reader is drawn, sometimes unwillingly, into the drama and harshness of the safari's purpose. We experience each failure and success as the often grim and graphic hunt progresses. Kilgo weaves observations from David Livingstone, Hemingway, Dinesen and others throughout his journal, adding dimension and depth to his reflections and experiences. Kilgo was a member of the University of Georgia English department faculty for over 30 years and directed the creative writing program there from 1994 to 1996. He passed away in 2002, and this book was his last. Not for the faint of heart, it is nevertheless recommended for public libraries and university collections in the state of Georgia. ▶▶

—Book Review by **Ruth Hayden**
Smyrna Public Library

Stand Up for Alabama: Governor George Wallace by Jeff Frederick
(University of Alabama Press, 2007; ISBN 978-0-8173-1574-0, \$47.50).

Jeff Frederick answers two questions in his deeply researched book: What was George Wallace's impact on the state of Alabama? Why did Alabamians continue to embrace him over a 25-year period? Frederick lucidly portrays the complexities of George Wallace and the political and economic culture of Alabama from 1963 to 1986. He explores broad themes such as Wallace's collusions with special interests to steal opportunities and resources from working people, his constant fomenting of regional pride and invocation of Southern citizens' sense of victimhood, his lifelong "government by perpetual campaigning," and his disinterest in administration and policy. Frederick also

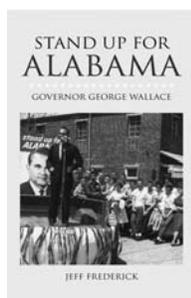


presents colorful details of Alabama life that help readers see the people and ethics of the time; his inclusion of citizens' letters to Wallace adds illuminating human perspectives. From Chapter 2 onward, Frederick adeptly turns his research at the Alabama Department of Archives and History and of contemporaneous newspapers into a fluent narrative. The preface and Chapter 1, though, feel like a dissertation's literature review; readers may feel like they're wading through other researchers' generalizations. The book is rigorously referenced; virtually every paragraph has an endnote, some listing up to 13 sources. Because of the depth of his research and storytelling (474 pages including notes), Frederick's conclusions about Gov. Wallace's intentions and effects carry the weight of expertise, sound judgment and efforts at fairness. When he attributes Wallace's misgovernance to narcissism, hypocrisy and demagogic appeals to racism and mistrust, he provides information to support these statements. Several components would make the book more navigable, such as a brief chronology of Wallace's long career and a bibliography of sources. Nevertheless, the book will be instructive and entertaining to readers wanting to absorb an era or to watch in hindsight as a self-serving politician wastes leadership opportunities to improve people's lives, leaving a 50-year legacy of limitations and lost potential for progress. ▶▶

— Reviewed by **Peter Otto**
Swilley Library, Mercer University

Georgia Legal Research by Nancy P. Johnson, Elizabeth G. Adelman, and Nancy J. Adams (Carolina Academic Press, 2007; ISBN 978-1-59460-388-4, \$25.00).

This work represents one of the most current and comprehensive legal research tools written specially for Georgia. Clearly written and without extraneous legal jargon, the 11 chapters and three appendices of this 253-page paperback book cover a broad range of topics that explain how to perform legal research in Georgia. The topics include the court system; the eight steps of doing legal research; researching and reading cases; understanding Georgia statutes, constitutions and court rules; understanding Georgia's legislative history and process; Georgia's administrative law; how to update the research through citators; using secondary resources, legal ethics, online resources; and, finally, how to put it all together. The three appendices provide a section on understanding legal citation, a useful bibliography and a list of Georgia practice materials. A good table of contents, adequate indexing and chapter learning



objectives make this book easy to follow, especially for researchers who will only need a certain section of the book. As a legal research guide specifically for Georgia, written by three law librarians, including a professor of law and a former law instructor, this book is an invaluable tool for serious legal researchers, including librarians, law students, and paralegals. Recommended for all law libraries, academic libraries and most public libraries. ►►

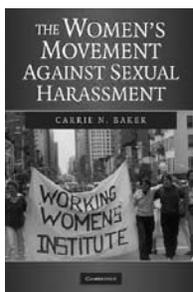
— Reviewed by **Duke C. Darkwolf**
Dougherty County Public Library

The Women's Movement Against Sexual Harassment by *Carrie N. Baker*

(Cambridge University Press, 2008; ISBN: 978-0-521-87935-4 (hardback) \$80.00, 978-0-521-70494-6 (paperback) \$24.99).

Using interviews and research from legal records, *The Women's Movement Against Sexual Harassment* provides a thorough examination of how a grassroots women's movement against sexual harassment led to the creation of federal policies to protect women against sexual harassment in the workplace. With the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the women's movement used Title VII of the law, prohibiting discrimination in the workplace based on race, color, national origin, religion and sex, as the basis for their early lawsuits against employers who fired women who refused their sexual advances. Out of these early lawsuits, a woman's organization, Working Women United, was created in Ithaca, N.Y. This small grassroots movement grew and spread to cities, both large and small, across the country. As the movement gained momentum, more organizations were created, and the media began to notice the growing number of lawsuits. Eventually by the late 1970s, the federal government developed policies and guidelines to address the issue of sexual harassment in the workplace. Carrie N. Baker is an assistant professor of sociology and anthropology and is director of women's studies at Berry College in Mount Berry, Ga. Currently on leave from Berry, she is a visiting associate professor of women's studies at Smith College. This book is well-researched and should be required for any college course that discusses women and social change or women in American society. Recommended for academic libraries. ►►

— Reviewed by **Diane Fulkerson**
University of West Georgia



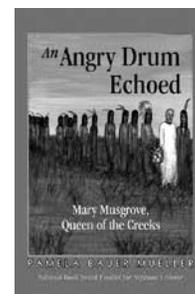
JUVENILE

An Angry Drum Echoed: Mary Musgrove, Queen of the Creeks by *Pamela Bauer Mueller*

(Pinata Publishing, 2007; ISBN-10: 0-9685097-7-0; \$18.95).

In precolonial Georgia, Coosaponakeesa grows up between two worlds. In her Creek mother's home where she lives as a child, she is a princess, but even as royalty she shares in village chores: weaving baskets, making pottery, sewing skins and hunting and fishing. After her mother's death, Coosa's English father, an infrequent visitor from Charles Town in colonial Carolina, takes Coosa and her brother to live with him. She takes the English name "Mary" and learns English language and customs. From her father, she learns the deerskin trade, another bridge between the English and Creeks. Ultimately, she marries Englishman John Musgrove (and, in subsequent marriages, Jacob Matthews and Thomas Bosomworth, both Englishmen). With invented dialogue clothing the bare bones of biography, Mueller fleshes out the life of Mary Musgrove, the diplomat and businesswoman whose bicultural expertise smoothed the way for peaceful establishment of the Georgia colony in 1733, from her childhood to a short time before her death. Occasionally, Mueller takes the point of view of James Oglethorpe, establishing a chaste affair between him and Musgrove. This fictionalized biography will be appreciated by teen and adult readers with a strong interest in Georgia history, especially those who prefer a gentle read with uncomplicated characters and a straightforward plot. ►►

— Reviewed by **Vanessa Cowie**
Forsyth County Public Library



The Monster Who Did My Math by *Danny Schnitzlein*

Illustrated by Bill Mayer
(Peachtree Publishers, 2007; ISBN: 1-56145-420-6, ISBN: 978-1-56145-420-4, \$16.95).

"There once was a time I was frightened by numbers. They scared me at school and they haunted my slumbers." So begins Schnitzlein's harrowing tale of a boy who (like many of us) does not want to do his math homework. Late one night as the boy labors over his textbook, a monster appears and offers to do the work for him. Naturally, the boy accepts and presents his perfectly

