

contents—is that gayborhoods are neither disappearing nor declining, but rather shifting and being reinvented. Existing gayborhoods are including a wider variety of people and new gayborhoods are forming, often in close proximity to older gayborhoods. Although this is hardly a shocking conclusion, the journey to it is fulfilling; and the evidence presented in its favor is convincing.

In formulating his arguments, Ghaziani touches upon many oft-neglected and timely topics salient to gay and lesbian communities. For example, the contributions of the internet and smartphone apps to the obsolescence of gay places is considered in Chapter One. Because socialization maintains such a significant position in the gayborhood framework, the opportunity to socialize virtually surely bears on the health of such spaces; and Ghaziani effectively details this relationship. An emphasis on the difference between residential districts and commercial districts in Chapters Four and Five is another useful inclusion, as much of the data that researchers use to identify gay populations (on paper) are based on residence, while what is observed on the street is often a consequence of commerce. The attention paid to the meaning of gayborhoods for population subsets within the gay community—queers of color, seniors, and the transgender community—is also most welcome.

Although the book briefly describes the different spatial patterns of gay men and lesbians, it is not a central tenet of the work; the question of why gay men and lesbians have different spaces is relegated to an endnote and the references contained therein. Similarly, although Ghaziani discusses small and mid-sized cities and rural areas in several spots throughout the text, a more detailed focus on gay populations in these places would have been appreciated. As the author notes, there is a much scarcer literature on gay spaces in smaller cities and, while many of the broader social forces changing the way the lesbian and gay population lives may not be specific to the city of Chicago (or to other extensively studied large cities), a focus on gayborhoods in these smaller places may have been enlightening. However, to paraphrase the author in the text, a single book can only do so much.

Ultimately, some of the questions that *There Goes the Gayborhood?* leaves unanswered will be undertaken by future scholars, who will have a terrific resource with which to begin their quest. Ghaziani's book is a well-sourced piece of work and will be of substantial interest to anyone desiring to learn more about LGBT space and place. It would also offer an excellent contribution to courses in queer culture and contemporary urban sociology.

---

*Political Demography: How Population Changes Are Reshaping International Security and National Politics*, edited by **Jack A. Goldstone, Eric P. Kaufmann, and Monica Duffy Toft**, 2012. 336 pp. \$39.95 paper. ISBN: 9780199945962.

ANDREW NOYMER AND  
HARUKA C. HATORI  
*University of California, Irvine*  
noymer@uci.edu  
hhatori@uci.edu

---

Social scientists sometimes don't know what to do about demography, the study of pattern and process in population. Births, deaths, and migration are the three major demographic forces, and all three clearly interact with other social phenomena. Nonetheless, demography (when not ignored altogether) is often treated either as a given (e.g., large cohorts resulting from the post-war baby boom) or as a mechanical consequence of purely social phenomena (e.g., low fertility as a result of female empowerment). Full-blooded demography, complete with feedback loops and population growth rates that are governed by all three of the forces, is a difficult animal to domesticate when it comes to integration with other social science studies. The present volume is a successful effort to bring demography together with political science, both in the domestic and international spheres.

*Political Demography*, edited by Jack A. Goldstone, Eric P. Kaufmann, and Monica Duffy Toft, has eighteen chapters, of which one is an introduction by two of the editors (EPK and MDT) and one is a conclusion by the third editor (JAG). The remaining sixteen chapters are by the editors as well as sixteen

other scholars. The volume has five parts: (I) Political demography and political science (two chapters, of which one is the introduction to the book); (II) Population and international security (three chapters); (III) Demography, development, and conflict (four chapters); (IV) Demography and national politics (four chapters); (V) Demography in ethnic and religious conflicts (four chapters); and a final concluding chapter. All the chapters are readable and self-contained, making this a useful classroom text at the advanced undergraduate or graduate level.

The book begins with a chapter-by-chapter overview. Following in Chapter Two is a useful introduction to political demography by Jack Goldstone, which gives a crash course in demography (to the extent to which that's possible in 19 pages) and its application to political science. Three demographic trends that will shape the global future are highlighted (pp. 25–7). These will persuade even the most skeptical that demography cannot be ignored: (1) “the relative [demographic] decline of Europe and the Americas compared to Asia and Africa”; (2) “older rich countries and very poor young ones”; (3) “migration, migration everywhere.” The interrelationships among these three trends hardly require elaboration: for instance, that the third is driven by the first two. The ongoing trans-Mediterranean maritime migration crisis at the time of this review is only one example of how these forces are shaping the world.

In Chapter Three, Neil Howe and Richard Jackson place the importance of demography in historical context, building an argument for its pivotal role in geopolitics. Parts of the world are “hyperaging” (p. 31). By 2050, “at least half of Americans will be over age 40 and at least half of Europeans will be over age 50” (*ibid.*). Howe and Jackson are critical of those who are too slow, in their view, to realize the implications of these massive demographic changes. Chapter Four, by Mark L. Haas, looks at what happens when costs associated with cohort aging are not offset by cohort savings, with a focus on the United States in international perspective. He puts it well when he notes that “Rarely can analysts of international politics claim to be documenting new phenomena. Global population aging, however, is one of these revolutionary variables” (pp. 50–1).

Moreover, he cautions that “It is worth stressing that predictions for aging in the great powers are unlikely to be wrong. The reason for this certainty is simple: The elderly of the future are already born” (p. 52). Jennifer Dabbs Sciubba gives an overview of power transition theory as it applies to population aging (Chapter 5). It is curious that the discussion of care robots in Japan that begins this chapter does not consider migration. Why don't the Japanese import nurses instead (e.g., from the Philippines)?

Chapter Six is an interesting case study on changing age structure and civil conflict, by Elizabeth Leahy Maden. Brought into comparative perspective here are Uganda and South Korea. Richard P. Cincotta and John Doces examine similar patterns in Chapter Seven, on a global scale. They have pulled together an interesting data set on youth-bulge population, trade, per capita GDP, and so on, although it is hardly surprising, for example, that OPEC membership is positively correlated with dictatorship/autocracy and negatively correlated with democracy. Henrik Urdal (Chapter 8) looks at similar topics as the two preceding chapters, with a focus on youth bulges and their putative role in political violence, broadly construed. In Chapter Nine, Richard Matthew discusses the synergistic/antagonistic effects of population pressure, climate change, and political tensions. There is a refreshing treatment (p. 137) of the uncertainties involved.

The volume then switches gears, turning in Chapter Ten to an analysis of changing racial demography in the United States and its role in the 2008 presidential election, by William H. Frey. In Chapter Eleven, Brian Gratton investigates immigration policies in the United States, with data from the seventeenth century to the present. This is obviously a huge topic in contemporary American social science, and the author does a great job of covering so much in a concise way. David Coleman (Chapter 12) performs a similar analysis for Europe, with emphasis on the United Kingdom and its ethnic diversity. Religion and demography, and the interaction of the two, are explored in Chapter Thirteen, by Eric P. Kaufmann and Vegard Skirbekk. The counterfactual analysis of public opinion on homosexuality and abortion rights under various scenarios of future fertility (p. 203) is thought-provoking.

Monica Duffy Toft continues the theme of religion and demography in Chapter Fourteen. She looks at the concept of “wombfare”—meaning, as a play of words on warfare, fertility as a political weapon—in case studies of Lebanon, Israel/Palestine, and Utah. Christian Leuprecht looks at wombfare in the following chapter, but also highlights the role of religious- or sect-specific immigration. Chapter Sixteen, by Elliott D. Green (which might have been better grouped with Chapter 8), looks at demography and conflict in Africa. Green makes a demographically and historiographically nuanced argument that centuries of low population densities, followed more recently by rapid population growth, have sown the seeds of conflict. Examples from Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo buttress the argument. Green feels that “a neo-Malthusian direct relationship between demography and conflict is implausible” (p. 251). However, he warns, “the general neglect of demographic factors by many scholars has not been helpful in furthering our understanding of African conflict” (*ibid.*); we agree. In Chapter Seventeen, Ragnhild Nordås looks at the interaction of demography, religion, and conflict in Côte d’Ivoire. Christian-Muslim tensions in west Africa will be with us in the near future if not beyond, and this essay is a useful reminder not to forget the demographic aspects.

The final chapter, by Jack Goldstone, gives a brisk summary of the major points of the book. This book is a great *tour d’horizon* of political demography, and a number of the chapters dovetail well, more or less along the lines of how the editors have organized the sections of the book. The volume will be useful for a number of audiences. Demographers interested in the application of their analytic tools in the political sphere can profitably read this book. Political scientists and political sociologists will benefit from seeing how bringing demography into their work can sharpen their analyses. We have a few cavils; the direction (or directions) of the causal arrow(s) in relationships between youth bulges and conflict merit more scrutiny, for example. Perhaps conflict can prevent building family-planning infrastructure just as much as youth bulges can cause conflict—this is suggestive of a positive

feedback loop (although with negative consequences for human welfare), rather than a simple causal arrow. Nonetheless, for all the reasons noted above, this book is a worthwhile read throughout. We hope it will be widely used in classrooms and widely read by scholars interested in the topics.

---

*Income Inequality: Economic Disparities and the Middle Class in Affluent Countries*, edited by Janet C. Gornick and Markus Jäntti. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2013. 515 pp. \$65.00 cloth. ISBN: 9780804778244.

REIN VÖÖRMANN  
Tallinn University, Estonia  
voormann@iiss.ee

---

*Income Inequality: Economic Disparities and the Middle Class in Affluent Countries*, edited by Janet C. Gornick and Markus Jäntti, is dedicated to a topic that is important both in sociology and economics: the distribution of inequality and wealth in society. The project is an international one, in every sense of the word. First, there are researchers from different countries among the authors, who are outstanding specialists in their respective fields—this is a precondition to high-quality research. Second, attempts have been made to keep the geography of the analyzed countries as broad as possible. In addition to affluent states, the analysis of which forms the main part of the book, the authors have also touched, albeit briefly, on less-affluent post-socialist states (Chapter 6) and on India and the Republic of South Africa as case studies (Chapters 16 and 17, respectively).

The book has several obvious strengths. 1) *The precise definition of the object of research*, which is the inequality of income with an orientation to the middle class. The subject matter of the book is one that is always important, because the middle class has always been seen as the source of economic development, political stability, and social cohesion all over the world. 2) *The varied treatment of the object of research*. The approach is intriguing because it goes beyond the traditional understanding of income inequality to place the middle class in the context of other components of