

however, he often paints a sweeping picture of specific events, such as the Wyoming range war (1886-1892) and McCarthyism and these sections will need to be enhanced by the instructor.

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Tom Pynn

**Catherine Clinton, ed. *Southern Families at War: Loyalty and Conflict in the Civil War South*. Oxford, UK and New York: Oxford University Press, 2000. Pp. xi, 244. Cloth, \$35.00; ISBN 0-19-513683-7. Paper, \$17.95; ISBN 0-29-513684-5.**

Catherine Clinton has edited a collection of essays that derive from a conference held in April 1998 to discuss issues relating to family, loyalty, and conflict within the Civil War and Reconstruction South. *Southern Families at War* covers a variety of topics in great detail, showing the diversity of experiences of blacks and whites, men and women. Each essay relies heavily on primary sources with enough secondary sources cited to provide background.

The first three essays discuss various aspects of slave and freedmen's marriages. Some former slaves went to great lengths after the war to find their families, including placing expensive advertisements in newspapers and journals aimed at African Americans. Other former slaves seemed content to leave old marriages behind when they started their lives as freedmen. The war itself played havoc with slave families, especially in areas where fighting occurred and where the men escaped to join the Union army.

White families also suffered during and after the war. White women petitioning the Confederate government to let their men come home used the argument of family necessity. Planter families were devastated by the loss of the slaves and had to find new ways to survive, both physically and as families, after the war. Marriage patterns did not change as much as might be expected, but the urgency of war caused some women to make hasty decisions and poor marriages. There were, of course, many widows in the Confederacy who struggled either to find a suitable new husband or to make ends meet without one. Some white women found solace in religion, and they kept diaries that provide an interesting glimpse into the mindset of the Southern elite woman. The war changed family structures, as well. Old gender roles did not survive the exigencies of war, and women took more powerful positions in families where men were absent.

Religion was an important aspect of Southern society. Some Jews converted to Christianity to avoid the stigma of being different, and foreign-born Confederates went to great lengths to prove their loyalty. Rhetoric of an afterlife where families would be reunited kept many soldiers in the field and reinforced Confederate ideals.

Because each essay is short and well-grounded in primary sources, this book could easily be used in graduate or undergraduate courses on the Civil War and Reconstruction, women's and gender studies, or as a text to show how to research and present archival findings. It would also be useful for finding lecture material, as the stories presented are interesting and in-depth, perfect for holding a class's attention. The only fault with the book is that, like many collections of essays, it lacks a coherent focus. The authors studied very different families and their struggles, in different parts of the Confederacy and at different times. There is no unifying framework to allow the reader to compare the situations presented in the various studies.

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John Baylis. *Anglo-American Relations since 1939: The Enduring Alliance*. Manchester, UK & New York: Manchester University Press, 1997. Pp. xvi, 272. Cloth, \$59.95; ISBN 0-7190-4778-X. Paper, \$24.95; ISBN 0-7190-4779-X.

Stephen Ryan. *The United Nations and International Politics*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 2000. Pp. xiv, 209. Cloth, \$55.00; ISBN 0-312-22824-4. Paper, \$19.95; ISBN 0-312-22825-2.

Several recent works on late twentieth-century international relations conclude in the 1980s with the end of the Cold War. While this is a natural stopping point for many studies, one of the most important projects for historians and teachers in the future will be integrating post-Cold War issues into the understanding of how world diplomacy operates. Foreign policy scholars cannot ignore the impact Cold War actions had on global developments following the disintegration of the Soviet Union. Both books under consideration here attempt to begin this process by connecting the international concerns of the 1990s to what has happened on the world stage since World War II.

John Baylis's collection of primary documents examines the diplomatic "special relationship" between Britain and the United States from 1939 through the Clinton presidency. Treating the concept of the "special relationship" alternatively as a description, a diplomatic tool, and a myth, Baylis suggests that the ties binding the two nations together have usually tightened during political and military conflicts and loosened in peacetime. Nevertheless, he emphasizes that the paradigm has been used differently by the United States and Britain throughout their histories, and that other factors, such as the personal relationship between the President and the Prime Minister, have also had a significant influence on the strength of the bond.

Baylis begins with a brief chronology of the major events in American and British relations since 1940. He then provides in his introduction a concise historiography on the field of Anglo-American relations, as well as a discussion of