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son and Engelhard (Univ. of Virginia) offer an excellent, well-documented text that provides facts to address half-truths and debunk 20 myths of US health and illness care, encouraging readers to become engaged in the process of improving the health of the nation. Garson is an academician who chairs the National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality, and Engelhard is a health policy analyst. They distinguish between a medical care provided primarily by physicians from health care that is combined social, economic, educational, consumer, and health policy inputs. The book addresses American medical care compared to other countries, the cost of medical care compared to health promotion (prevention), the criteria for measuring quality of care, and gaps in health care coverage. The final section offers solutions intended to improve health and illness care, including near-term incremental changes, an intermediate-term national approach, and a long-term system change, noting that a rational health care system will be possible. The book offers up-to-date references and resources separate from the straightforward text. **Summing Up:** Recommended. All levels.—*J. E. Thompson, Michigan University*

**1** RC343 2006-40119 CIP  
 on, Walter. **Bioethics and the brain.** Oxford, 2007. 235p bibl index  
 ISBN 019530778X, \$45.00; ISBN 9780195307788, \$45.00

Glannon (Univ. of Calgary) offers an excellent introduction to the ethical and philosophical issues arising out of advances in neuroscience, especially in brain imaging methods such as functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI). Working with a rich notion of "mind" that includes interactions between the brain and various internal bodily systems, as well as interactions between the organism and the external environment, the author argues for any view that reduces mind to brain. He believes the emergent properties are qualitatively new properties not exhibited by the physical properties of the brain. He also argues that the first-person phenomenological subjective experience cannot be entirely captured by third-person descriptions of brain functions. This book provides an extensive overview of research. It explores diagnostic and predictive neuroimaging, and biological and psychological interventions in the brain—including the use of psychotropic drugs for enhancing cognitive and affective capacities. It also covers different forms of neurosurgery and psychosurgery, deep brain stimulation, the thought-controlled brain-computer interface, and brain-computer interfaces. Glannon raises important ethical and philosophical questions about the use of techniques and experiment, and presents cautionary concerns about what techniques actually tell one about human functioning. **Summing Up:** Highly recommended. Lower-level undergraduates and above; general readers.—*J. A. Kegley, California State University, Bakersfield*

**2** RJ506 2007-8807 CIP  
 ng up with autism: working with school-age children and adolescents, ed. by Robin L. Gabriels and Dina E. Hill. Guilford, 2007. 302p  
 index afp ISBN 1593854595, \$34.00; ISBN 9781593854591, \$34.00

In recent years more attention has been paid to the assessment and needs of children with autism; as a consequence, some children are showing real gains. However, many children with autism are not so fortunate. Even with good treatment, could end up with a lifelong dependency. Of practical advice, this collection of 13 articles by 28 contributors addresses the needs of the sometimes-neglected autistic population as those children grow into school-age children and adolescents. The volume covers subjects not often discussed in the professional literature but of concern to parents, e.g., the power struggles that can occur between parents and providers and the difficulty of obtaining funding for services. Unfortunately, however, some of the essays by Gabriels (psychiatry and pediatrics, University of Colorado, Denver) and Hill (psychiatry and pediatric neuropsychology, Univ. of New Mexico) include offer incomplete information. For example, parents are advised to teach their children to masturbate but are not given specific information about when or how to do this and what the downstream instruction could be. Another offers suggestions for how to bring a child with autism on vacation but does not go into the alternative of remote

This is a solid resource, as far as it goes. **Summing Up:** Recommended. With reservations. Graduate students, researchers, professionals, and general readers.—*K. M. Dillon, emerita, Western New England College*

**45-2063** RA564 2006-101375 CIP  
 Harwood, Jake. **Understanding communication and aging: developing knowledge and awareness.** Sage Publications, CA, 2007. 325p bibl index afp; ISBN 9781412926096 pbk, \$44.95

Harwood (Univ. of Arizona) looks at issues of communication as they relate to older Americans. This interesting, easy-to-read book provides a comprehensive framework for considering communication and aging in the contexts of biology, sociology, and psychology. In this four-part volume, the author raises and outlines theoretically societal attitudes about aging—what they are, how they develop, and how they may persist or change. Among the contemporary issues he addresses are communication between older adults and health care professionals, and communication via the Internet. This work considers both individual and social factors that influence communication, and the impact of various means of communication in such areas as intergenerational friendship, elder abuse, and cultural differences. This thought-provoking book is strongly anti-ageist. It could serve as a broad overview for anyone interested in the myriad of issues related to communication and aging. **Summing Up:** Recommended. Lower-level undergraduates through graduate students, professionals/practitioners, and general readers.—*M. M. Slusser, DeSales University*

**45-2064** RT86 2007-5727 CIP  
 Koerner, JoEllen Goertz. **Healing presence: the essence of nursing.** Springer Publishing, 2007. 226p bibl index afp ISBN 0826115756 pbk, \$35.00; ISBN 9780826115751 pbk, \$35.00

The concept of "presence" as a contributory factor in the healing process has long been discussed in the nursing literature. Koerner (independent scholar) contends that the essence of nursing is more than the nursing process. Dealing with the "doing" and "being" complexities of providing nursing support for self-healing, this work offers a framework for integrating presence with presence. Drawing on Carl Rogers' self-actualization theories, *Healing Presence* represents an act of passion for the profession, a window to a personal journey, and an invitation to view the nursing profession's contribution to healing in a Jungian context. Topics range from the context of nursing practice in the creation of a healing field to healing virtues and transpersonal interactions. The work's value comes from its integration of scientific, creative, and spiritual philosophies as a core context for the complex nurse-patient interaction involved in the promotion of a healing environment. But the attempt to integrate such a range of philosophies and theories may be confusing for inexperienced readers. The organization of the individual chapters lacks consistency, and readers must browse the table of contents to gain an overall perspective. Each chapter provides adequate references and is peppered with pearls of wisdom from various individuals. Includes a glossary. **Summing Up:** Recommended. Graduate students and professionals/practitioners.—*N. I. Henry, The Pennsylvania State University*

**45-2065** K3611 MARC  
 Manson, Neil C. **Rethinking informed consent in bioethics,** by Neil C. Manson and Onora O'Neill. Cambridge, 2007. 212p bibl index; ISBN 9780521874588, \$85.00; ISBN 9780521697477 pbk, \$32.99

While most theorists and policy makers tend to assume that informed consent ought to be as explicit and as specific as possible, Manson (Lancaster Univ.) and O'Neill (Univ. of Cambridge) argue that pursuing this ideal is unwise. Instead they recommend an approach to informed consent that focuses on the specific rights or expectations that a patient or research subject might waive through informed consent, and the reasons why a patient or research subject may wish to waive those specific rights or expectations in a particular case. Criticism of existing approaches to informed consent is the focus of this book. Although the authors' positive vision for a new approach to informed consent is somewhat sketchy, it still constitutes a powerful alternative to the current paradigm. **Summing Up:** Recommended. Graduate students and professionals/practitioners.—*N. I. Henry, The Pennsylvania State University*