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Book Review of `The Presidency of George Bush,' by John Robert Greene

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Political Science and International Relations Faculty Works. 107.

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SOCIAL SCIENCES

ture and release of two Mexican nationals who were confessed spies, make an interesting account of a U.S. intelligence success not previously publicized. Recommended for public libraries.—*Edwin B. Burgess, U.S. Army Combined Arms Research Lib., Fort Leavenworth, KS*

Law & Crime

Lessig, Lawrence. **Code: And Other Laws of Cyberspace.**

Basic Bks: Perseus. 1999. c.240p. illus. ISBN 0-465-03912-X. \$30. LAW
Lessig (law, Harvard) tackles the tricky and troubling question of Internet regulation. Cyberspace has no intrinsic structure to protect its libertarian nature, and we are now well into an era where commerce and its partner in control, government, are working in a manner that could permanently, and perhaps negatively, alter its character. Now is the time for all who stand to benefit from the unique nature of cyberspace to assert their collective values into a framework for regulating it. Apathy or inaction, Lessig argues, would result in a medium shaped by special interests. His book is replete with examples of failed attempts to address cyberspace issues, such as the 1996 Communications Decency Act. A central theme is that the architecture of cyberspace can be coded to address properly salient issues related to free speech, intellectual property, and privacy. This is a vital book for concerned citizens of cyberspace. Recommended for academic and larger public libraries.—*Philip Y. Blue, New York State Supreme Court Criminal Branch Lib., New York*

Paniccia, Patti. **Work Smarts for Women: The Essential Sex Discrimination Survival Guide.**

Ballantine. Jan. 2000. c.480p. ISBN 0-345-42261-9. **pap.** \$14. LAW
In 1993, after a pregnancy, Paniccia was fired from her position as broadcast journalist by a major television network. She sued the network and subsequently settled out of court. Drawing on that experience and her training as an attorney, she has assembled an informative look at all forms of workplace discrimination—harassment, disparate pay and benefits, glass ceiling issues, and unequal treatment due to pregnancy, age, weight, or appearance. She reviews pertinent civil rights legislation and explains the exceptions—workplaces, individuals, or situations that may not come under the protection of those laws. Chapters advise how to take action against an employer; how to file a complaint with the employer or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; and the ins and outs of lawyers' fees. Appendixes list state human rights' agencies, web sites and organizations that offer information and

help, and the text of applicable legislation. This book is specific, reliable, and practical. Recommended for most public libraries.—*Joan Pedzich, Harris Beach & Wilcox, Rochester, NY*

Sitarz, Daniel. **Corporations: Laws of the United States.**

223p. LC 99-15425. ISBN 0-935755-67-5.

Sitarz, Daniel. **Divorce: Laws of the United States.**

191p. ISBN 0-935755-68-3.

Sitarz, Daniel. **Limited Liability Companies: Laws of the United States.**

159p. LC 99-39257. ISBN 0-935755-80-2.

Sitarz, Daniel. **Partnerships: Laws of the United States.**

250p. LC 99-38111. ISBN 0-935755-69-1.

Sitarz, Daniel. **Wills and Trusts: Laws of the United States.**

159p. LC 99-39250. ISBN 0-935755-70-5.

ea. vol: Nova, dist. by National Bk. Network. (Quick Reference Law). 1999. **pap.** \$16.95. LAW

Sitarz, an attorney and self-help legal writer, offers here a series of books on business, divorce, and estate and trusts law. Each book takes one type of law—such as divorce—and summarizes its relevant statutory laws for each state. The books are clearly written, but they have several failings. First, they don't cite significant case law (and, as any lawyer knows, statutes are not the only source of law). Second, they don't provide Internet references (even to official state web sites). Third, there are no sample forms anywhere in the books. And while these texts are intended "for use by legal professionals, paralegals, businesspersons," it is hard to imagine any of these groups finding them more than marginally useful. In text format and online (via Lexis-Nexis), the *Martindale-Hubbell Law Digest* is a superior summary of the statutory law, prepared by prominent law firms in each state. For nonprofessionals, there is a wealth of information online (at www.findlaw.com, for example, or at official bar association and state sites). Not recommended.—*Harry Charles, Attorney-at-Law, St. Louis*

Political Science

Doder, Dusko & Louise Branson. **Milošević: Portrait of a Tyrant.**

Free Pr. 1999. c.291p. index. LC 99-41729. ISBN 0-684-84308-0. \$25.

INT AFFAIRS
Perhaps no two authors are better qualified for the task of such a biography. It is hardly surprising that journalists Doder and Branson (*Gorbachev: Heretic in the Kremlin*) should find Milošević's personality "compassionless," "rigid," and "vindic-

ative." More interesting are the astonishing events that marked Milošević's rise to power: the "crucial" role of Radio TV Belgrade's "spin doctor" Dusan Mitevic; the betrayal of Serbian party chief Ivan Stambolic, Milošević's mentor; and the dramatic challenges from Prime Minister Milan Panic. The book's shortcoming concerns the details of Milošević's first 40 years. There's little information beyond his parents' suicides and his enduring dependence on his wife, Mira, beginning when they were "emotionally bruised teenagers." While more Milošević biographies will likely follow, this is a solid one suitable for all libraries.—*Zachary T. Irwin, Pennsylvania State Univ., Erie*

Greene, John Robert. **The Presidency of George Bush.**

Univ. Pr. of Kansas. (American Presidency). Feb. 2000. c.229p. permanent paper. index. ISBN 0-7006-0993-8. \$35.

POLITICS
Highly respected presidential historian Greene has written what may well be the finest single volume account of the presidency of George Bush so far. Balanced, fair, and thorough, the book begins by explaining the difficult set of problems Bush inherited from Ronald Reagan—especially economic troubles. Reagan's problems, he argues, came home to roost in the Bush years. Greene argues that Bush attempted to govern with limited opportunities, that he pursued a limited agenda in large part because of them. Was Bush overcautious (as many critics contend), or, Greene asks, did he make the most out of difficult circumstances? Bush, he concludes, "made few mistakes" and left "a more than adequate legacy." And although he is sympathetic to the former president, he does not pass softly over his faults—and he admits he wouldn't call Bush a "great" president. An excellent work of contemporary history, this book is highly readable. It merits the attention of all serious students of the American presidency.—*Michael A. Genovese, Loyola Marymount Univ., Los Angeles*

Hightower, Jim. **If the Gods Had Meant Us To Vote They Would Have Given Us Candidates.**

HarperCollins. Feb. 2000. c.368p. index. ISBN 0-06-019393-X. \$25. POLITICS

With a disarmingly folksy charm, writer and former Texas agriculture commissioner Hightower skewers George W. Bush, Al Gore, America's moneyed interests, the presidential selection process, corporate greed, the corruption of the political process by big money, the wage gap, globalization, and a whole lot more. Part critique of the corruption of American life and politics, part Populist manifesto, this sometimes witty, often irreverent, on-target book offers readers a welcome respite from the more mundane, mainstream accounts of contem-