

University of Houston,  
Graduate College of Social Work  
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**GCSW Faculty Recommended Books**

The list below represents books that GCSW faculty members have identified as being crucial to their commitment to social work. They are worth reading during the course of your professional development.

Addams, J. (2011). *My twenty years at Hull House*. Greensboro, NC: Empire Books.

Alexander, M. (2010). *The new Jim Crow: Mass incarceration in the age of colorblindness*. New York, NY: New Press.

Axinn, J. and Stern, M. (2008). *Social welfare: A history of the American response to need*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Badenoch, B. (2008). *Being a brain-wise therapist*. New York, NY: Norton.

Brown, D. (2007). *Bury my heart at Wounded Knee*. New York, NY: Holt Paperback.

Butler, R. N. (2010). *The longevity prescription: The 8 proven keys to a long, healthy life*. New York, NY: Avery.

Child, B. (2012). *Holding our world together: Oojibwe women and the survival of the community*. New York, NY: Viking.

Crow Dog, M. and Eroles, R. (1991). *Laktoa women*. New York, NY: Harper Perennial.

Ehrenreich, B. (2011). *Nickel and dimed: On (not) getting by in America*. New York, NY: Picador Press.

Fadiman, A. (1998). *The spirit catches you and you fall down: A Hmong child, her American doctors, and the collision of two cultures*. New York, NY: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Frankl, V. (2006). *Man's search for meaning*. Boston, MA: Beacon Press

Freire, P. (2000). *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*. New York, NY: Continuum.

Gladwell, M. (2008). *Outliers: The story of success*. New York, NY: Little, Brown and Company.

Horton, M. and Freire, P. (1990). *We make the road by walking: Conversations on education and social change*. Chicago, IL: Temple University Press

- Koontz, S. (1992). *The way we never were: American families and the nostalgia trap*. New York, NY: Basic Books.
- Kozol, J. (1996). *Amazing Grace: The Lives of Children and the Conscience of a Nation*. New York, NY: Harper Perennial.
- Kozol, J. (2006). *Rachel and her children: Homeless families in America*. New York, NY : Broadway Books.
- Kozol, J. (1992). *Savage inequalities: Children in America's schools*. New York, NY: Harper Perennial.
- Lareau, A. (2003). *Unequal childhoods: Class, race, and family life*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.
- LeBlanc, A. L. (2003). *Random family: Love, trouble, and coming of age in the Bronx*. New York, NY: Scribner.
- Lein, L., Angel, R., Beausoleil, J., and Bell, H. (2012). The basement of extreme poverty: Katrina survivors and poverty programs. In L. Weber & L. Peek (Eds.), *Displaced: Life in the Katrina diaspora*. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press.
- Lein, L. and Schexnayder, D. (with Douglas, K., & Schroeder, D.). (2007). *Life after welfare: Reform and the persistence of poverty*. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press.
- Loeb, P. R. (1999). *Soul of a citizen: living with conviction in a cynical time*. New York, NY: St. Martin's
- Loeb, P. R. (2004). *The impossible will take a little while: A citizen's guide to hope in a time of fear*. New York, NY: Basic Books.
- Lukas, S. (1993). *Where to start and what to ask: An assessment handbook*. New York, NY: W.W. Norton and Company.
- Marsiglia, F. and Kulis, S. (2008). *Culturally grounded social work: Diversity, oppression and change*. Chicago, IL: Lyceum Books Inc.
- Rubin, A. (2007). *Practitioner's guide to using research for evidence-based practice*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley
- Pelzer, D. (1995). *A child called "It": One child's courage to survive*. Deerfield Beach, FL: HCI.
- Pelzer, D. (1997). *The Lost boy: A foster child's search for love of a family*. Deerfield Beach, FL: HCI.
- Skloot, R. (2010). *The immortal life of Henrietta Lacks*. New York, NY: Crown.

Specht, H. and Courtney, M. (1995). *Unfaithful angels: How social work has abandoned its mission*. New York, NY: Free Press.

Tavris, C and Aronson, E. (2008). *Mistakes Were Made (But Not By Me): Why We Justify Foolish Beliefs, Bad Decisions, and Hurtful Acts*. New York: Mariner Books

Watters, E. (2010). *Crazy like us: The globalization of the American psyche*. New York, NY: Free Press

Whitaker, R. (2010). *Anatomy of an Epidemic: Magic Bullets, Psychiatric Drugs, and the Astonishing Rise of Mental Illness in America*. New York, NY: Crown.

Zinn, H. (2010). *The Twentieth Century: A People's History*. New York, NY: Harper Perennial Modern Classics.

Zwick, M. and Zwick, L. ( 2010). *Mercy without borders: The Catholic worker and immigration*. New York, NY: Paulist Press.