

Media Review
Editor's Message

Electronic circuitry has overthrown the regime of "time" and "space" and pours upon us instantly and continuously the concerns of all other men [sic]. It has reconstituted dialogue on a global scale. Its message is Total Change, ending psychic, social, economic, and political parochialism. (McLuhan, 1967, p 18.).

Penned more than a generation ago, McLuhan articulated our need to think globally, however it is only in the past decade that communication technologies have lowered in price to the point where frequent international conversations are ubiquitous in academic circles. While the International Assembly of the National Council for the Social Studies has existed since 1994, the nature of online forums, such as this new journal, enable us to start a conversation amongst vast numbers of social studies educators around the world rather than just with the few colleagues (their fabulous qualities notwithstanding) who have been able to attend annual conferences of NCSS in the USA.

The Media Review Column of the Journal of International Social Studies offers a framework for readers interested in sharing resources they have discovered and find useful or perplexing in their efforts to be the most effective social studies educators they can be. The first section offers reviews on a common resource, in this case social studies methods texts. Ruth Reynolds (Australia), Jennifer Tupper (Canada) and Andrea Milligan (New Zealand) provide thoughtful reviews of textbooks used by teacher educators in their respective nations. All three reviews are of edited collections used as social studies methods texts. As you read the reviews you will no doubt be struck by the similarities of the issues deemed

important across different geopolitical locations. The second section provides a review of recently released media. Carolyn O'Mahony (USA) offers a review of *Visions of global education: The globalization of curriculum and pedagogy in teacher education and schools*, edited by longtime International Assembly leader Toni Fuss Kirkwood-Tucker.

Readers are strongly encouraged to respond through the journal website (iajiss.org), to participate in discussions with the reviewers about these texts and the questions they raise about teaching about society, as well as to submit their own reviews of complementary texts.

Carolyn O'Mahony, Media Review Editor

References

McLuhan, M. & Fiore, Q. (1967). *The medium is the message: An inventory of effects*. New York: Bantam Books.