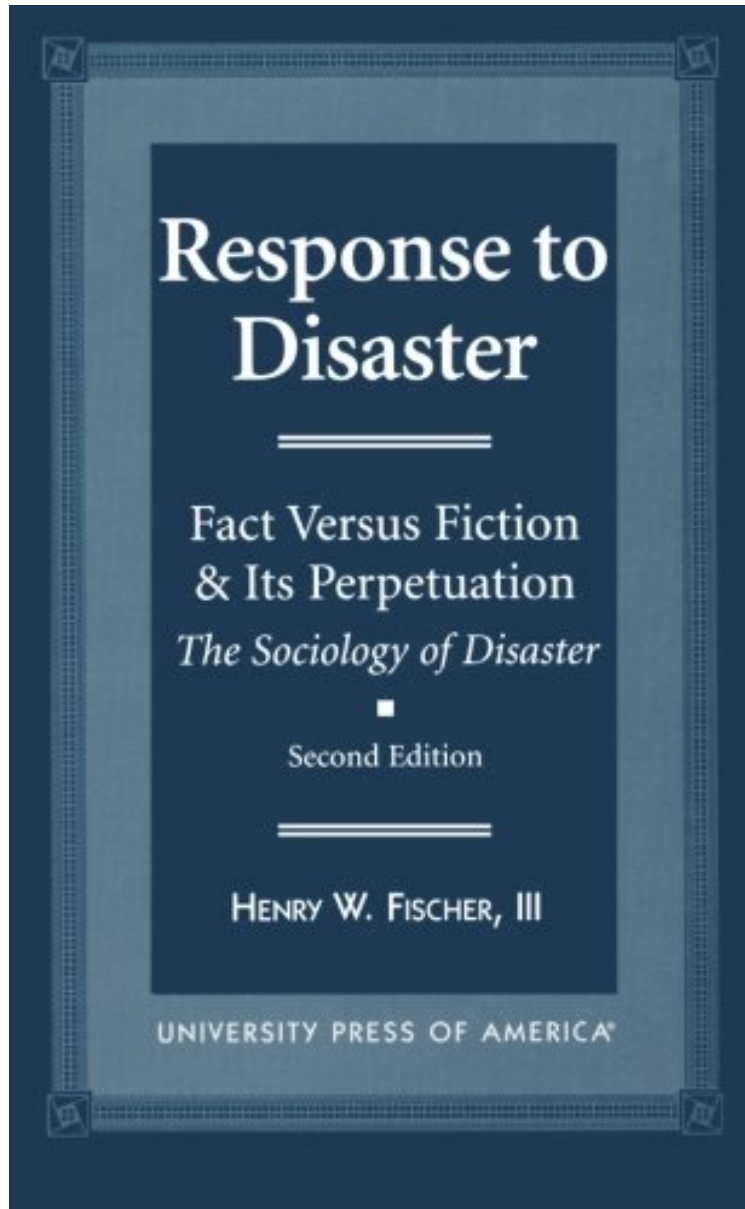


Response to Disaster: Fact Versus Fiction Its Perpetuation -The Sociology of Disaster-

Henry W. Fischer III

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Henry W. Fischer III : Response to Disaster: Fact Versus Fiction Its Perpetuation -The Sociology of Disaster- before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Response to Disaster: Fact Versus Fiction Its Perpetuation -The Sociology of Disaster-:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good Information, Written In Atrocious Academic-SpeakBy CharlesThis book is only going to be interesting to academic sociologists. That is, it is only relevant to people who are keenly interested in academic details and are willing to put up with atrocious academic-speak, including constant use of jargon and passive voice. I read this as a companion to "popular" books on disaster survival, such as Laurence Gonzales's "Deep Survival" and Amanda Ripley's "The Unthinkable." But this book is very different. Fischer writes to debunk the "disaster mythology" that claims society falls apart in disasters, with widespread looting, disorder and social chaos. He does a good job debunking it. But wow, is this book boring and poorly written. If you can stand that, and are looking for statistical proof that people usually behave better, rather than worse, during disasters (other than certain cultures), you can find it here.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Essential ReadingBy WallysmomFischer provides some excellent findings on the "accuracy" of media reporting of disasters and how that reporting shapes public perception, political action, and resource (\$\$\$) allocation in disaster. This is a must-read for anyone in the Emergency Management profession or any public official. Needless to say, it would be refreshing for our mainstream media to read it as well...hope springs eternal. Highly recommend this book!1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Written by a subject matter expert in the fields of Sociology as well as Emergency and Disaster ManagementBy Jeri ZerrResponse to Disaster is written by Henry W. Fischer III who is a highly qualified subject matter expert in the field of Emergency and Disaster Management as the Founding Director of the Center for Disaster Research and Education at Millersville University in Pennsylvania. Without spilling the contents of this book, this text is required reading in some college level courses in the field of EDM. I found the information presented within as very timely and very informative despite having been involved in large scale special events and major disasters since a very young age - younger than most and now spanning a couple or several decades. From my vast experiences in many different aspects of emergency and disaster response as well as special events, the media helps to not only shape the disaster response, if managed properly they can be instrumental to a great disaster response or conversely the media can make a much larger disaster out of the existing disaster if not managed adequately. I highly recommend Response to Disaster by anyone who responds to major disasters or is involved in any aspect of Emergency or Disaster Management. Consider Response to Disaster as the Sociology of Disaster.

This edition of Response to Disaster provides an updated and more thorough version of the well-received 1994 first edition. The author adds new research and expands on areas only briefly developed in the first edition, which disseminated the original research findings from several disaster research studies completed by the author. He provides the reader with a basic understanding of how people and organizations usually respond to a disaster in contrast to how they are usually perceived to respond, as well as a description of how and why the mass media helps provide both accurate and inaccurate information involving disasters. In addition, the author discusses organizational response to disasters and assesses future needs in research to improve the reaction to them so that mitigation, planning, and disaster response activity are more effective. Here, he greatly expands the areas of theory of approaches to disaster.

. . . the collection of papers contained in the book may provide a useful introduction to disaster research to newcomers, in need of a synthetic overview of the main issues dealt with. (Bruna De Marchi Journal Of Contingencies And Crisis Management). . . the collection of papers contained in the book may provide a useful introduction to disaster research to newcomers, in need of a synthetic overview of the main issues dealt with. (Bruna De Marchi Journal Of Contingencies And Crisis Management)About the AuthorHenry W. Fischer III is a member of the International Research Committee on Disasters, and is Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Millersville University of Pennsylvania.