

## REVIEW 1

**"Emphasizing the interaction of social, political, and physical factors in the creation of and responses to emergencies and disasters of various kinds, such as the Mexican earthquake of 1985 and Hurricane Hugo in 1989, the author present examples of the effects of calamitous events on traditional societies, and developing and developed nations, while examining the question of why response,, to such events differ ... from one culture to the next" (Choice) Bibliography. Index**

## REVIEW 2

**From R.R. Cornelius - Choice**

Anyone in need of a general introduction to the cross-cultural study of how people react to both human-made and natural disasters will find this excellent little book extremely useful. . . . Included is an overview of the different kinds of research methodologies used in the study of disasters, a review of the questions asked by various researchers, and an examination of the effects of cultural biases of both the social scientific study of disasters and the responses to disasters by relief organizations. Because Aptekar employs a multidisciplinary perspective and examines a variety of different kinds of disasters in different kinds of societies, he is able to offer some particularly convincing and sometimes counterintuitive conclusions about the social and psychological consequences of disasters. A compellingly written work. All levels.

## REVIEW 3

**From Gordon A. Robillard - Science Books & Films** Aptekar provides a readily understandable and thorough description of how victims of disasters respond during the event, as well as in the days, months, and years following it ... the book gives an informative and different perspective on environmental disasters that may be felt around the world

## REVIEW 4

**From Robert Bolin - Contemporary Sociology**

For those interested in a general introduction to social science research on disaster Aptekar's book offers a clearly written and reasonably current review of the literature. Aptekar, a non-sociologist, reviews in the introduction and first three chapters myths about human behavior in disasters, a useful way of illustrating some of the basic contributions of disaster research. His second theme, the global effects of disaster, is also presented here... Aptekar reviews literature on disasters in various countries, distinguishing among traditional, developing, and developed societies (Ch. 4.) This is one of the strengths of his book, as there are few available works that presents a global perspective on disasters.... His discussion of the literature on disaster recovery in other societies (Ch. 6) is valuable...