Book Reviews – Third Sector Review

Book Selection Requirements

It is neither practical nor appropriate for all books relevant to the Third Sector to be reviewed in the TSR. Indeed, only the most important newly-published books related to the Third Sector and/or its policy and operational environment should be reviewed.

Such a relationship may be direct (i.e. the book is specifically about the Third Sector) or tangential (i.e. a book which has a premise related to Third Sector-impacting policy or Third Sector organisational operations/environment). As such, relevant books must be relevant to readers of the Third Sector Review but can encompass wider issues than just Third Sector-related issues. The Editors of TSR will determine whether or not a book is relevant.

Formatting Requirements

[Book Title, Edition]

By [Author(s) first and last names]. Published in [year] by [publisher], [publisher street address and city], [ISBN], [total pages]

Reviewed by [your name], [your position and employer/organisational details]

Content Requirements

The primary function of the Book Review is to offer a critical analysis and informed, unbiased discussion in order to give the reader an appreciation of the relevance and utility inherent in the work from their perspective.

Such a discussion requires that reviews be clearly and concisely written for a general audience of Not-for-profit practitioners, members of the public, Third Sector academics and students alike. Book reviews should not simply provide a summary or description of a book’s content but should explain to the readers how the book addresses theoretical debate and/or adds to the knowledge of the audience more generally and provide a critical analysis. It should strive to allow the reader of the review to determine whether the book might be of value to their work or area of interest.

Generally, book reviewers should provide a brief outline or synopsis of the book, indicating the general themes, the chronological scope, and the major emphasis. For the main body of the review, reviewers should focus on key chapters or arguments, supported by evidence
from the book (keep quotations short and relevant, and limit overall use). Follow this discussion with your critique and analysis, including strengths, weaknesses and limitations, and how this relates to the existing literature and the broader field itself. To conclude, sum up your main arguments, commenting on the intended target audience, the usefulness of the book for this intended audience and any concluding comments (including your recommendations and a final evaluation). Standard Book Reviews should be between 500-800 words in length, although length may vary depending on the book being reviewed. However, reviewers should discuss their intended review length if the review is likely to extend beyond 800 words.

**Review Requirements**

An editor of TSR will consider each book review submitted and accept, return for modification or reject them. Reasons will be given by the editor should a modification or rejection decision be made.

**Contact and Book Review Submission**

Contact the Editors of Third Sector Review, by emailing editor@anztsr.org.au, with your book review or with any queries you may have.

It is preferable for intending reviewers to contact the editors prior to undertaking their review in order to confirm whether or not the editors will accept a review regarding a particular work.

If a proposed review is currently under consideration by another journal or has been published previously the editors will not accept it for consideration in the Third Sector Review.