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Making a Difference College Guide: education for a better world

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Peer reviewed

Review: *Making A Difference College Guide: education for a better world.*

Edited by Miriam Weinstein

Reviewed by [Jim Lewis](#)
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Weinstein, Miriam, editor. *Making A Difference College Guide: education for a better world.* San Anselmo, Ca.: Sage Press, 1994. 221 pp. US \$12.95 paper ISBN: 0-9634618-1-8. Recycled, acid-free paper.

Oh, where, oh, where was this book 40 years ago when I was looking for a college?

The *Making a Difference College Guide* deserves to be at the top of the pile of reference books in every high school guidance counselor's office - and required reading for all who enter. Too few of today's would-be college students seem to think beyond the bottom line. This book, set forth pretty much in the words written by the staffs of colleges and universities that aim to teach to the heart as well as the mind, might open a few eyes to the fact that there are other reasons for going to college.

From Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio to Western Washington University's Fairhaven College in Bellingham, from schools with 90 students to those with more than 50,000, the MAKING A DIFFERENCE COLLEGE GUIDE provides readers with thumbnail sketches of 80-some schools that admit to wanting to do more than just crank out yet another business major. These schools study peace, they study the environment, and they create helping hands.

The information provided on each school is sketchy, but the necessities are there: the "making a difference studies" curriculum, the philosophy behind the school, and information on how to find needed details. The book also offers brief, but well-done chapters on "Community Service: Experience for a Lifetime," "Environmental Literacy," "Making a Difference in the World," and important information on "How to test Drive a College." The book ends with the "Graduation Pledge of Environmental and Social Responsibility: I _____ pledge to thoroughly investigate and take into account the social and

environmental consequences or any job opportunity I consider."

Good advice for all job seekers.

While I am still convinced that you get out of any college what you put into it, this book, had it been available in 1956, might have changed something for me; I may not have attended the state-run educational factory I ultimately chose. But then maybe I would have; most of these schools are expensive--although scholarships are available to those who qualify.

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