

Voices from Vietnam

By Barry Denenberg

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Explains the unique events and practices that shaped the Vietnam War, bringing together the stories of people who experienced it firsthand, as told in their own voices. Reprint. *AB. PW.* "

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly
"This book is not about the politics of history of the Vietnam War. It is about what it was like to be in Vietnam," writes Denenberg (The True Story of J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI). Using the words of men and women affected by the events in Vietnam, the author paints a disturbing picture of "the first war the United States ever lost." The quotes come from a variety of sources, including then-president Lyndon Johnson, Jane Fonda and Walter Cronkite, and provide conflicting viewpoints on the war and its purpose. But most memorable are those of the numerous soldiers who fought in Vietnam-they discuss, among other things, the fear of death, the use of drugs to escape the horror of fighting, the pressure to believe in what they were doing, and confusion over anti-war sentiment. Arranged chronologically, the statements (except those made by military officials) become progressively more doubtful and despondent as the war drags on. Throughout, the terrible suffering of all involved remains the central focus. A moving tribute to the lingering effects of a painful period in American history. Ages 12-up.
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From School Library Journal
Grade 9 Up?Denenberg has gathered accounts that attest to the terrible human cost of the long conflict in Vietnam. Although the entire period of U.S. involvement is covered, this is not meant to be a general history. The author supplies only limited background information, supplemented with primary-source material from scholarly works, to provide a structure for the quotes, letters, diary entries, and reminiscences (some of which are quite graphic) of Americans and Vietnamese who experienced the war. Their words provide a perspective that is often missing in books that have a more traditional historical focus. Denenberg includes some material that is critical of the North Vietnamese, but he saves his harshest criticisms for the U.S. and South Vietnam, an interpretation that does little to help readers gain a fuller understanding of the war. Although report writers will need to consult titles with more coverage and analysis, such as Albert Marrin's America in Vietnam (Viking, 1992), Voices from Vietnam will draw students who want to understand why the conflict continues to invoke such extreme personal reactions.?Mary Mueller, Rolla Junior High School, MO
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From Booklist
Gr. 7-12. Denenberg scoured an impressive array of personal narratives and histories of the Vietnam War to produce this fine chronicle of U.S. involvement, which stretches from the late 1940s to 1975. Readers will surely be moved by the carefully chosen excerpts from the letters and personal accounts of soldiers, military and political leaders, diplomats, intelligence officers, medical personnel, Vietnamese citizens, journalists, and activists, whose varied experiences convey the traumatic climate of the period. The inclusion of writings by North Vietnamese soldiers is particularly interesting. Denenberg's seamless commentary introduces each phase of the war and links the passages, providing a balance that heightens the poignancy, frustration, or resolve expressed. A high-caliber oral history expressly for young adults, this definitely deserves a place in both school and public library collections. Source notes are provided for each chapter, and the book includes an extensive bibliography of adult books, a glossary, and a chronology. *Chris Sherman*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

John Whetstone:

Book is actually written, printed, or created for everything. You can realize everything you want by a reserve. Book has a different type. As we know that book is important issue to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading skill was fluently. A guide Voices from Vietnam will make you to be smarter. You can feel far more confidence if you can know about anything. But some of you think which open or reading any book make you bored. It isn't make you fun. Why they can be thought like that? Have you trying to find best book or suitable book with you?

Theresa Piercy:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their very own friends. Usually they carrying out activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book may be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the publication untitled Voices from Vietnam can be fine book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

William Johnson:

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them loved ones or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read the book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a e-book. The book Voices from Vietnam it is quite good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space bringing this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book has high quality.

Duane Vega:

Is it a person who having spare time in that case spend it whole day simply by watching television programs or just lying down on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This Voices from Vietnam can be the reply, oh how comes? It's a book you know. You are so out of date, spending your time by reading in this completely new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these publications have than the others?

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