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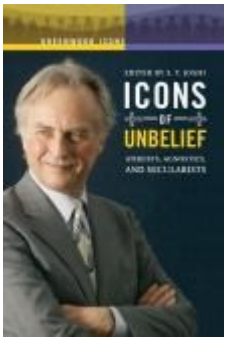
What's New in Reference?

Liberal Arts

REF BL2759 .I36 2008

Icons of Unbelief: Atheists, Agnostics, and Secularists. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2008.



"In the opinion of many critics and philosophers, we are entering an age of atheism marked by the waning of Christian fundamentalism and the flourishing of secular thought. Never before has atheism and agnosticism been so prevalent in American society, as testified by the simultaneous appearance of 2 atheist volumes on the bestseller lists: Richard Dawkins's *The God Delusion* and Sam Harris's *Letter to a Christian Nation*. This volume profiles some of the key figures and groups who have advanced religious unbelief over the past 200 years. Included are alphabetically arranged entries on 27 iconic figures of unbelief, such as: Charles Bradlaugh, Richard Dawkins, Daniel C. Dennett, Albert Einstein, The Existentialists, The Founding Fathers, Sigmund Freud, Sam Harris, Robert G. Ingersoll, Friedrich Nietzsche, Madalyn Murray O'Hair, Mark Twain, Voltaire, and more. Each entry discusses the ideas and lasting significance of the person or group, provides sidebars of interesting information and quotations, and closes with a list of works for further reading. The volume ends with a selected, general bibliography. Students in history and social studies classes will welcome this reference as a guide to the American separation of Church and State and to the ideas central to contemporary political debates."

(annotation from booksinprint.com)