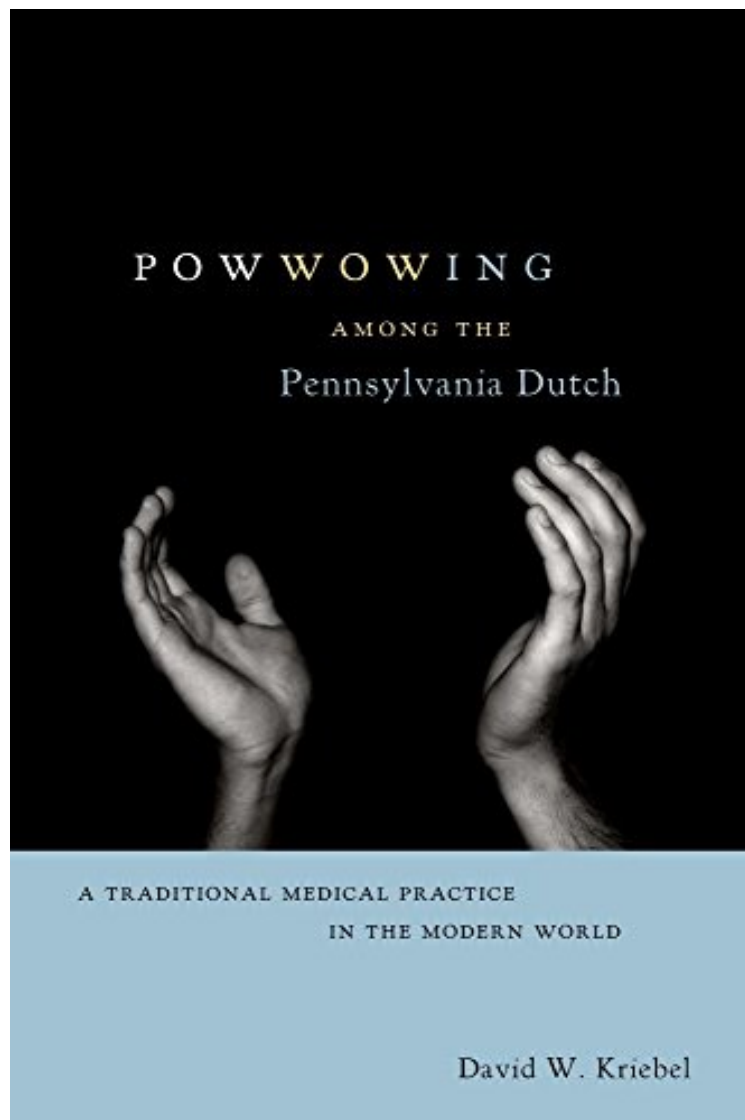


(Ebook free) Powwowing Among the Pennsylvania Dutch: A Traditional Medical Practice in the Modern World (Pennsylvania German History and Culture)

Powwowing Among the Pennsylvania Dutch: A Traditional Medical Practice in the Modern World (Pennsylvania German History and Culture)

David W. Kriebel

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David W. Kriebel : Powwowing Among the Pennsylvania Dutch: A Traditional Medical Practice in the Modern World (Pennsylvania German History and Culture) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Powwowing Among the Pennsylvania Dutch: A Traditional Medical Practice in the

Modern World (Pennsylvania German History and Culture):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A Well Written Discourse on Traditional PA German Healing By George A. Albany Being of PA German lineage on my mother's side of the family, I have always been interested in the various customs and practices of the many different sects and practices of the PA Germans. I discovered the pow-wow or braucherei concept as an adult and now believe that my great-grandmother may have been a braucher. Family stories refer to her as a nurse or doctor's assistant, or sometimes a mid-wife; she apparently assisted a local MD in his practice. My suspicions come from the fact that in addition to her assisting in mainstream healing, she seems to have handed many practices down that just reek of pow-wow mysticism. (My mother would always place a stained dishrag out in the back yard under the light of a full moon to bleach it properly.) So, with that perspective, I found this book to be very interesting. I read up on the practice of pow-wow out of curiosity. This book, while seeming to have a sympathetic undercurrent to the custom, is a good study of the practice and what it is about, how it is viewed inside and outside the PA German communities, and also addresses the relative successes and failures of the practice. All in all, a great read for those of us who want to learn more about the practice in a scholarly way. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Very detailed and great information By Stacy Smith I got this book as a gift as I was pow-wowed as a child several times. This book was an interesting look into pow-wow. As a PA Dutch person, there was so much I never knew. I loved his personal accounts and background information. He did an excellent job and was very thorough and I enjoyed this read. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Interesting and informative. By Terry L. Pellegrini This is a wonderful book full of interesting information on a subject you do not read about often. I had been interested in Powwowing for a while as it was rumored my great-grandfather was powwow. It is wonderful to read such a well researched and written book on the subject. I would recommend this to anyone.

Known in Pennsylvania Dutch as Brauche or Braucherei, the folk-healing practice of powwowing was thought to draw upon the power of God to heal all manner of physical and spiritual ills. Yet some people believed and still believe today that this power to heal came not from God, but from the devil. Controversy over powwowing came to a climax in 1929 with the York Hex Murder Trial, in which one powwower killed another who, he believed, had placed a hex on him. Based on seven years of fieldwork and extensive interviews, David Kriebel's study reveals the vibrant world, history, and culture of powwowing in southeastern and central Pennsylvania. He describes, compares, and contrasts powwowing practices of the past and the present; discusses in detail the belief in powwowing as healing; and assesses the future of Braucherei. Biographical sketches of seven living powwowers shed additional light on this little-understood topic. A groundbreaking inquiry into Pennsylvania German culture and history, *Powwowing Among the Pennsylvania Dutch* opens a window onto an archaic, semi-mystical tradition still very much in practice today.

Making the subject even more fascinating is Kriebel's contention that some modern powwow activists have reinvigorated the ancient practice as a new age phenomenon. Altogether, a fascinating exploration of a novel subject. Sol Puech, *Bloomsbury* A well-written and wonderfully enjoyable book. Part of the volume's appeal stems from Kriebel's integration of case studies and appendices that allow powwowers and their clients to speak for themselves. Karol K. Weaver, *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* An engaging introduction to the practice, and . . . a serious source for the study of a field to which there has been paid far too little attention. Arthur Lawton, *Journal of Folklore Research* An engaging read that illustrates the longevity of folkways within American ethnic groups despite the changes in the larger worlds of medicine and culture. James Higgins, *H-Penn* About the Author David W. Kriebel is an anthropologist and writer specializing in religion and medicine. He has published articles on powwowing in *The Journal of the Center for Pennsylvania German Studies*, *The Pennsylvania German*, and *Esoterica*.