CHECKLIST
You are ready to submit your book review if you have:

[ ] Written an 900 – 1,200-word review. This is likely to include a synopsis of the text, some context for the book, an outline of why it is important to JAACAP readership in general (and perhaps also a nod to the specific audience that might find this book most compelling), and finally that details the merits and shortcomings of the text.

[ ] Opened your review with the book title, author, publishing house city/state/country, publisher, and year published. For example:

[ ] Ended your review by listing your name, degree, city, state (and country if outside the US), academic institution if applicable, and email address. Here is an example:
   Jane Smith, M.D. Department of Psychiatry East-West University School of Medicine Anytown, Anystate Jane.s@comcast.net

[ ] Cited all page numbers of book quotations in the text of your book review. For example, if you were reviewing Thomas Kuhn’s The Structure of Scientific Revolutions, one sentence in your text might look something like this:
   The author claims: “A paradigm can, for that matter, even insulate the community from those socially important problems that are not reducible to the puzzle form, because they cannot be stated in terms of the conceptual and instrumental tools the paradigm supplies” (p. 26).

[ ] Double-checked that all quotes and citations of other sources are accurate and in AMA citation style.

INTRODUCTION
Thank you for your interest in authoring a review for the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Book Forum. The Book Forum explores traditional texts as well as other media (eg, videos, video games, graphic novels, etc.) and shares ideas relevant to helping young people and families. The Book Forum is often the first section of the Journal people read and book reviews enjoy long lives as part of the Journal’s online and indexed archives. As a matter of Journal policy, we cannot guarantee acceptance of reviews. However, we will do everything we can to work with authors to help
them produce high-quality, publishable reviews. Prior to publication, most reviews will need to be revised. Please note that the review should not be shared with the author(s)/editor(s) or publishers of the reviewed book prior to publication of the review.

The following guidelines are provided for contributors to the Book Forum in order to increase the quality and ensure the consistency of its reviews. Please take the time to read them completely.

GUIDELINES

I. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Occasionally JAACAP will invite a reviewer who may be perceived by the author(s) of the work and/or by readers to have a conflict of interest that prevents objective evaluation of the work. For example, the invited reviewer may be the author of a competing book, a former student of the author, or a colleague in the same department. If, for any reason, you suspect that a bona fide or perceived conflict of interest will cast a shadow over your review, please alert the Assistant Editors for the Book Forum. Sensitivity to this issue by invited reviewers is appreciated, because it is impossible for the Assistant Editors and the Editorial Board to know of all the conditions and circumstances that would lead readers to dismiss a review because of a perceived conflict of interest.

II. CONTENT OF THE REVIEW

We invite reviewers to write scholarly, thought-provoking pieces of work in exchange for which we hope to sustain a serious forum our reviewers to influence the way AACAP members and JAACAP readers reflect on issues germane to research and treatment in our field.

In general, a book review engages with the narrative and argument of the book, extracting useful, interesting, or provocative themes and points of view. A book review then includes a critical discussion of those themes, exploring the merits of the authors’ argument, the book’s clinical or scientific utility, and others lenses through and angles from which the book might best be read. A good review provides an incisive description of the book’s strengths, weaknesses, and utility. When relevant, a good review considers how the book affects practice, interventions, how we speak with patients, how we listen, what we should presume our patients know, and so forth.

Some general advice:

1) Write your review. You may use a standard book review format (briefly summarizing the book, outlining its strengths, its weaknesses, how well it reaches the intended audience), but you may also adapt this standard format to engage with the book in a broader context, discussing relevant themes and controversies. Your chief mandate: make it interesting.

2) Use examples and quotations from the book (and cite page numbers) to illustrate what the authors say.
3) If you are reviewing a textbook, take a deep breath and relax. Textbooks can be a challenge to review because they contain so much information, are generally comprehensive, and usually fairly well-written. While it is worth giving an overview of what the book covers, your opinion of the strengths and weaknesses of various chapters, and your overall recommendation, please consider also discussing following:
   a. A textbook is usually a consolidation of where a particular field or area of study stands: What does the textbook say about where the field is right now and where it is going? In other words, how does it articulate a clinical, academic and/or research paradigm for the field? What does this text, compared to either previous editions or rival textbooks, bring to the fore and what does it push to the background?
   b. What does it see as cutting edge in the field and what does it see as accepted knowledge?
   c. Does the textbook address controversies in the field? If so, how? If not, how does it avoid the controversies?
   d. What did you find interesting in the textbook? Why? What captured your eye? This may include specific topics, ways of exploring phenomena, interesting facts, formats, graphs, illustrations, tables, even the cover!
4) We welcome provocative reviews that take a stand, and that then defend and justify that position. Of course, the more controversial a topic or criticism is, the more closely one needs to respect and understand the arguments. As Christopher Hitchens put it: “The first requirement of anyone engaging in an intellectual or academic debate, is that he or she be able to give a proper account of the opposing position(s).” (C. Hitchens, The End of Fukuyama, available at: http://www.slate.com/id/2137134/).
5) As the Journal is an academic journal, the rules of authorship, attribution, and acknowledgement apply. If you have any questions about these matters, please do not hesitate to ask.

If you decide that you cannot say anything useful in the space provided, notify the Assistant Editors for the Book Forum that you recommend no review, suggest an alternative reviewer, or prepare a Briefly Noted paragraph.

III. MATTERS OF FORM AND STYLE

DEADLINE
A deadline will be assigned when you are invited to review; please notify the editorial office if you will be unable to meet your deadline. Please note because reviews are frequently solicited with a goal of putting together a particular theme for that month’s edition of the JAACAP Book Forum, the deadline
does not mean immediate submission for publication. For citation in your CV, please discuss status (“Submitted,” “Pending Publication”) with the editorial office.

LENGTH OF REVIEW
JAACAP’s page restrictions make it necessary for reviewers to stay within the number of words allotted (generally, 900-1,200 words). If the review will be longer or shorter, please discuss with the Assistant Editors.

BOOK REVIEWER’S SIGNATURE LINE
At the end of the text of your review, please type: Your full name and academic degrees, your affiliation as you want it to appear in print (no titles, please), City and State, and e-mail address. Example:

Jane Smith, M.D.
East-West University School of Medicine,
Anytown, Anystate
Jane.s@comcast.net

If an author is in independent practice, please provide the city and state. In addition, affiliation information for reviewers should include the reviewer’s complete mailing address and email address (if available). If there are two authors, please indicate who the corresponding author is (in the case of trainees, the corresponding author will always be the senior partner).

COI/DISCLOSURES
All authors must disclose any and all financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could influence or be perceived to influence their work. See the JAACAP Guide for Authors for full details. If an author (or authors) has/have no conflicts of interest to declare, this must be stated explicitly.

QUOTATIONS
Short quotations (40 words or less) are set off by double quotation marks; longer quotations are set off from the text as a freestanding block with no quotation marks. All quotations, including the freestanding ones, should be double-spaced. It is particularly important that all quotations conform exactly to the material in the book. The validity of an entire review may be called into question if it contains inaccurate quotations. PLEASE DOUBLE-CHECK THE ACCURACY OF EACH QUOTATION. A page number should be cited for every quotation.

Text inserted by the reviewer into a quotation (as a comment or to create complete, understandable sentences) should be contained in brackets, rather than in parentheses, to avoid confusion with parenthetical material that is part of the original text.

Reviewers should specify when they have added italics by inserting [italics added] directly following the material emphasized.
REFERENCES AND FOOTNOTES
References are encouraged yet should be kept to a minimum (usually 3, no more than 10) and footnotes are not allowed. If a reference needs to be made to a relevant paper or volume, use citations according to Journal style (AMA citation format, with multiple online resources including https://www.amamanualofstyle.com/view/10.1093/jama/9780190246556.001.0001/med-9780190246556) outlining how to cite journal articles, books, films, and online resources. Please note that if using Google Scholar, AMA citation style is very close to Vancouver citation style requiring that authors make very minimal changes to properly format references.

COLLEGIAL CO-AUTHORSHIP
Reviewers may solicit the assistance of a colleague or a fellow, resident, or medical student in preparing the review. This co-author should, of course, be knowledgeable in the subject area of the book under review and who will work in collaboration with the senior author.

COMBINED AND DOUBLE REVIEWS
There are occasionally misunderstandings about the nature of these reviews.

“Combined” reviews are invited when the editors believe that JAACAP readers will benefit from having two or more books evaluated in conjunction with each other, with comparisons and contrasts drawn where appropriate. We thus expect to receive in these cases one single review (rather than separate reviews for each book), and of the approximate length desired.

“Double” reviews are invited when the editors believe that JAACAP readers will benefit by having a book reviewed by reviewers from two different professional perspectives and / or areas of expertise. In these cases, two separate reviews are solicited, and usually published side by side.

SUBMITTING THE MANUSCRIPT
Please email submissions as a Word document to the Assistant Editors. Contact information is listed below.

IV. EDITORIAL ACTIONS
The Editors will make changes in manuscripts when such changes appear appropriate (e.g., to improve clarity, to bring the review down to the length specified in the invitation). On occasion, manuscripts may be returned with a request for clarification or revision.

It is JAACAP’s policy that, prior to publication, no portion or description of the contents of a review are to be disclosed to either (a) the author(s) / editor(s) of the book or books under review or (b) any other third party (e.g., but not limited to, the book’s publisher or the book author’s agent).
CONTACT US
Inquiries about writing a review and suggestions for resources are welcome. If you already have a review underway but will not meet your deadline or have any questions or concerns along the way, please let us know.

Assistant Editors: Misty Richards, MD, MS (misty.richards@gmail.com) and Justin Schreiber, DO (schreiberj@upmc.edu).

JAACAP Editorial Office (support@jaacap.org)

Thanks again for your interest in contributing to the Book Forum.