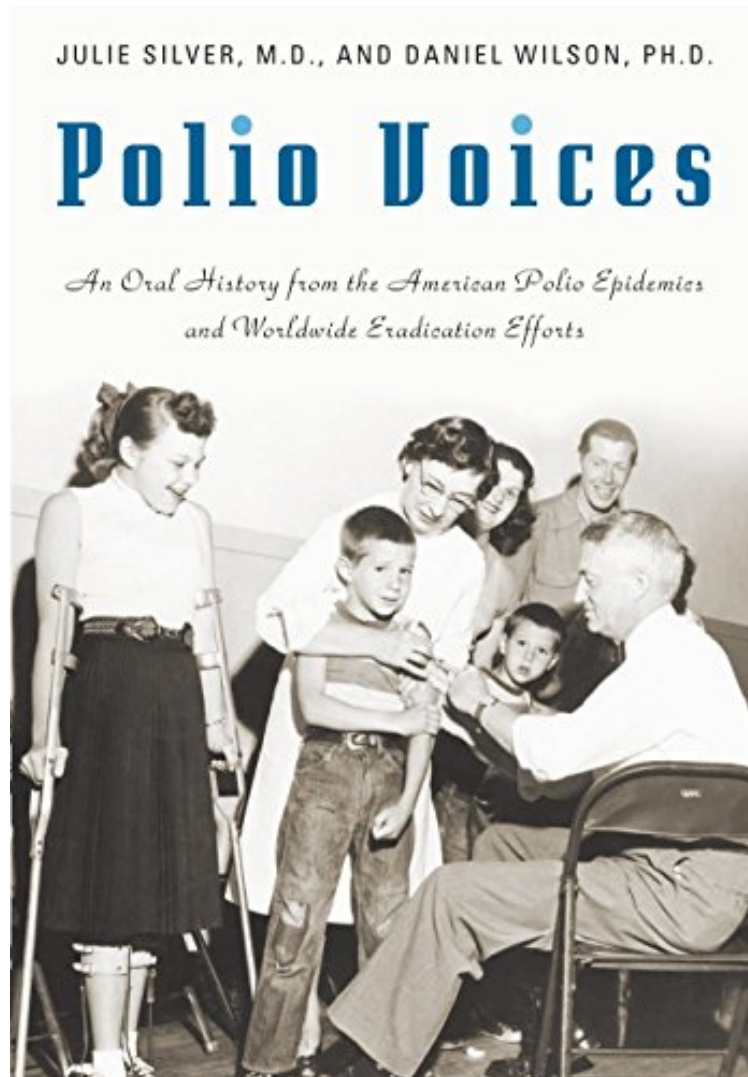


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## **Polio Voices: An Oral History from the American Polio Epidemics and Worldwide Eradication Efforts (Praeger Series on Contemporary Health Living)**

*Julie K. Silver*

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**Julie K. Silver : Polio Voices: An Oral History from the American Polio Epidemics and Worldwide Eradication Efforts (Praeger Series on Contemporary Health Living)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Polio Voices: An Oral History from the American Polio Epidemics and Worldwide Eradication Efforts (Praeger Series on Contemporary Health Living):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book!By Paula A. BurrAs a Polio survivor from the 50's, this is an important book for my collection. I can relate well! Perfect! So glad someone is telling our story!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Polio survivorBy TammyRoseInterviews from a plethora of people stricken with this miserable virus. Polio ruined so many lives. I live with the effects polio everyday. It is not fair at all. Thank God for the vaccine!6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A really moving and meticulously researched bookBy J. EssingerThis is a deeply moving and really well researched book that unflinchingly shows the human stories behind the American polio epidemics in the earlier part of the twentieth century. The book is full of human stories, some deeply sad, some highly inspirational, all poignant. It is a book I have found very special: a testament to human courage and, in the end, a chronicle of the wonderful discovery of the polio vaccine that has largely conquered this appalling disease.

Incorporating many rare photographs from the family albums of survivors who tell their stories, Harvard professor Julie Silver, M.D., and historian Daniel Wilson help readers understand the sheer terror that gripped parents of young children every spring and summer during the first half of the 20th century as polio epidemics ran rampant. Interviewed as part of the Polio Oral History Project directed by Silver and funded by Harvard, foundations, and private donors, the people featured in this book describe what is arguably the most feared scourge of modern times. Testimonies are included from people who worked in polio wards, as well as from those involved in worldwide eradication efforts. The book also addresses the emergence of the polio and disability rights movement, the challenges of post-polio syndrome, and the state of polio research and developments today. And it explores the concern that polio could return in an even more vicious form as a result of bioterrorism.

"This text is wonderfully rich and is highly recommended. . . . Polio Voices provides a multifaceted account of polio in America that greatly adds to the existing literature on the subject. Although many texts on polio have been written and quite a few include deep personal narratives, none are constructed with narratives as the major focus. Polio Voices is groundbreaking in this effort." - Oral History About the AuthorJulie Silver, M.D., is Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School and the Medical Director of the International Rehabilitation Center for Polio (IRCP) at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital. A world-renowned expert on Post-Polio Syndrome, she has published widely with seven authored books and eight edited collections to her credit, as well as dozens of articles in peer reviewed journals, magazines, and newspapers. She is the author of Post-Polio Syndrome: A Guide for Polio Survivors and Their Families, which received the Will Solimene Award of Excellence from the American Medical Writers Association. Silver is also Series Editor for two Praeger series, Contemporary Health and Wellness, and Rehabilitation and Recovery After Injury or Disease. For more information regarding polio, her polio books, or the IRCP, visit [www.polioclinic.org](http://www.polioclinic.org).Daniel J. Wilson, Ph.D., has been teaching history of medicine for more than a decade and is Professor of History at Muhlenberg College. He was a Fellow with the Agency of Healthcare Research and Quality National Endowment for the Humanities. He has given presentations on the polio epidemics at meetings of the American Association for the History of Medicine, The American Historical Association, and the International Post-Polio and Independent Living Conference, as well as at Harvard University and Columbia University. Wilson is, himself, a polio survivor.