Holmes (University of Melbourne), a prolific writer on corruption, provides a wonderfully comprehensive and accessible introduction to all aspects of corruption. Chapters cover a wide range of topics. These include the difficult issue of defining corruption; a survey of the many costs of corruption; discussion of whether corruption can be measured; psycho-social, cultural and system-related explanations of corruption; and what states and other agents can do about combatting corruption. As one might expect for a text of this kind, the author provides balanced treatment of all core topics, but also helpfully notes where issues are contested and where there is convergence. An enormously helpful, thorough introduction that will provide an invaluable resource to those unfamiliar with the massive inter-disciplinary literature on dealing with the pervasive problems associated with corruption. This book will be valuable not only for undergraduates but also graduate students working within one particular discipline who wish to gather insights about the issues from other disciplines. There is also useful treatment of how practitioners are contributing to our knowledge about addressing corruption. Summing up: Highly recommended, undergraduates and above; general readers. Essential for all academic and public libraries.

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