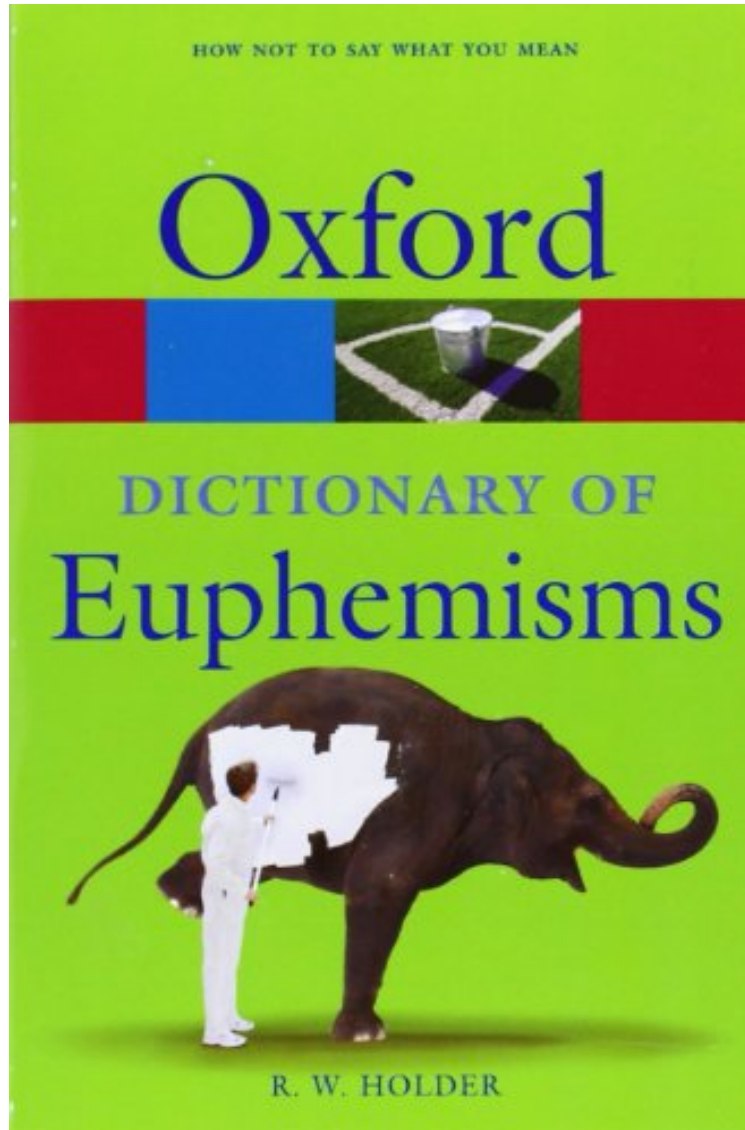


[Download pdf] A Dictionary of Euphemisms (Oxford Quick Reference)

A Dictionary of Euphemisms (Oxford Quick Reference)

R. W. Holder

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R. W. Holder : A Dictionary of Euphemisms (Oxford Quick Reference) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Dictionary of Euphemisms (Oxford Quick Reference):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A scolarly book.By tomA bit dull and not at all what I expected. But is proabaly a good companion to Rawlson's book of Euphamisms.0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic!By D. PasquinoIf someone has to produce translations using euphemisms, this book is what we need!! Very well printed and organized in the searching, it gives the opportunity to read as well used for translation!13 of 13

people found the following review helpful. Say What You Mean--Or Use A Euphemism By A Customer Author, R. W. Holder holds fast to two tests of a euphemism: 1) It must be a substitute for blunt precision or disagreeable truth 2) That a euphemism once meant, or still does mean, something else entirely different. In short, a way to be politically correct. A softer, kinder, way of speech so to speak. In this work of almost 500 pages, we learn the art of not saying what we mean. Some are almost common language now. Such as "bowel movement", "working girl", "Native American" and "downsizing". Newer ones include, "white knuckler" and "vertically challenged" (a nice way to say your boss is short) I enjoy the way this is cross indexed and arranged. I did notice that a great percentage of the material is British. I wonder if that means the Brits are very good at "mums the word"? Seriously, I downrated the review a bit due to that fact. Filled with thousands of quotations, definitions, derivations, and historical explanations, this dictionary is extremely comprehensive for perusing. A good editon for reference collections.-CDS-

This thoroughly updated paperback marks 20 years of R. W. Holder's popular and successful dictionary of euphemisms, offering a delightful collection of jocular and evasive expressions for sex, death, murder, crime, prison, and much more. Here are almost five thousand euphemistic expressions listed in alphabetical order, ranging from well-known favorites to less amusing expressions from the bureaucratic and military world. For each word or expression, Holder includes examples from real authors, along with entertaining explanations of the word's origins and meaning. New to this edition are over 250 new entries and fourteen introductory articles on major themes in euphemistic language, such as business, sex, death, and the human body. The book includes an extensive thematic index which groups words together under topics such as Age, Bankruptcy, Bribery, Copulation, Funerals, Killing and Suicide, Low Intelligence, Politics, and Warfare. From "five-fingered discount" to "surgical strike," here is a wonderful collection of colorful words and phrases that allow us to avoid life's unpleasantness, as well as add spice and humor to our everyday speech.

.com Language is more frequently used to disguise or temper what one means to say rather than telling it like it is, at least that's how it seems when looking through the 5,000 or so euphemisms compiled by R.W. Holder. There are colorful phrases ("bury a quaker" for defecate, "buy a brewery" for become an alcoholic), slang terms ("crib" for brothel), and terms that obfuscate a negative reality (saying "convivial" when meaning habitually drunken or "corrective training" for political imprisonment). Useful for writers, linguists, and students of human behavior, the euphemisms are arranged alphabetically, but cross-indexed thematically. So if you want to know what "foul ane" means, you can look it up directly and find it's a Scottish reference to the devil, but if you're looking for a juicy alternative for "death," the index provides "cop a packet," "suck daisy roots," and "come home feet first." Serving as both a dictionary and a comprehensive thesaurus of idioms, it's a useful as well as entertaining semantic resource. -- Stephanie Gold ` from previous edition Great fun, but not for the maiden aunt' Sunday Telegraph` Hugely enjoyable and cherishable 'Times Educational Supplement` An informative, amusing collection 'The Observer` Concise, well-organized entries 'Library Journal` This bran tub of linguistice gems... A delight for browsers who love the vivid oddities of language... A valuable collection 'City Limits` It's unputdownable once you open it 'Yorkshire Post` Euphemists are a lively, inventive, self-regarding and bumptious bunch. Holder goes among them with an etymological glint in his eye. 'Financial Times` Delightful, quirky and exhaustive, Holder's dictionary of American and British circumlocutions is the kind of reference work that one can spend hours browsing through happily. 'Baltimore Sun About the Author R. W. Holder is a business executive and life-long lover of words. The director of numerous companies, he speaks several languages, and travels widely. He is also the author of Thinking About Management.