

SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND RECREATION

The third volume of Michalos' study on the quality of life on the North American continent is subtitled Science, Education and Recreation. It compares and evaluates statistics on a variety of indicators, including R&D expenditures, patents, enrolment in school, expenditures on educational institutions, leisure, and copyrights. Once again, Canada performs favourably on many of these.

On the matter of science and technology, however, Michalos finds, perhaps not surprisingly, that "the quality of life in the United States is higher than that in Canada" (p. 41). As the author discovers, this is because the republic to the south tends to fare better with respect to the percent of R&D personnel, cost per patent, and the number of patents for every set of 1,000 R&D personnel. Canada, he finds nonetheless, does compare well with respect to R&D expenditures and immigrant professionals.

As for education, Michalos concludes that "the quality of life in Canada is higher than that in the United States" (p. 109). This is true, he claims, even though the U.S. outperforms Canada when one looks at expenditures per student and degrees per 1,000 for those between 24 and 34. Canada's level of foreign student enrolment and her pupil-teacher ratios, it seems, more than compensate for where she is deficient.

The last area taken up in volume three is that of recreation and leisure. Here too Canada is thought to do better than the United States. Canadians, it seems, are just much more physically active than Americans. In almost every category of sport, whether it be

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boating, bicycling, snowmobiling, camping and water skiing, it seems that Canadians fare better. Canadians also tend, according to Michalos, to watch less objectionable T.V. But contrary to what one might expect, the figures compiled in this volume, indicate that it is Canadians, and not Americans, who are more inclined to be in attendance at pro-football games.

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