

tools of the trade

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The Third Wave *The Third Wave. Alvin Toffler. New York: William Morrow and Company, Inc., 1980. 544 pp. \$14.95.*

In the *Third Wave*, Alvin Toffler, author of "Future Shock," has written another book that may alter the way we view ourselves and the world around us.

The *Third Wave* moves across a wide range of material. It explores such diverse subjects as the gyrating economy, the personality of the future, "blip culture," the post-nuclear family, the "electronic cottage," the crack up of the nation-state, and the shift from the obsolete politics of today to 21st century democracy. The result is a well-written synthesis that may change our deepest assumptions.

Today, we're viewing the impact of the third tidal wave of change in history (the first was launched by the agricultural revolution and second by the industrial revolution). The third wave is creating a new civilization in our midst with its own jobs, lifestyles, work ethic, sexual attitudes, concepts of life, economic structures, and political mind sets.

This third wave is challenging the power elite in both capitalist and socialist societies. The collision between the defenders of the second wave civilization and the advocates of the second wave civilization and the advocates of the third wave has become an important political confrontation: the super-struggle for the future.

The *Third Wave* is more than a picture of tomorrow. It provides an analysis of the forces that are shaping our civilization. It shows how all of us can make a transition into a more democratic society.