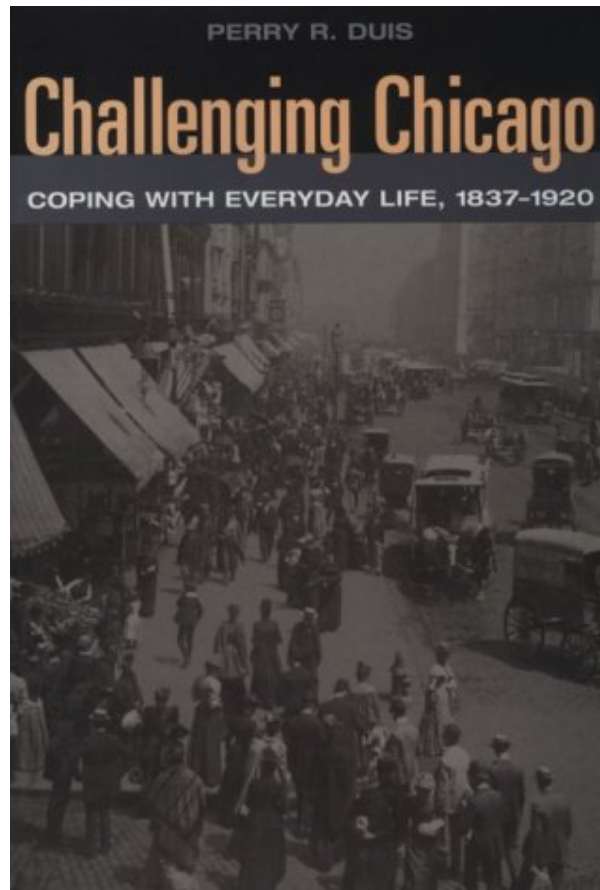
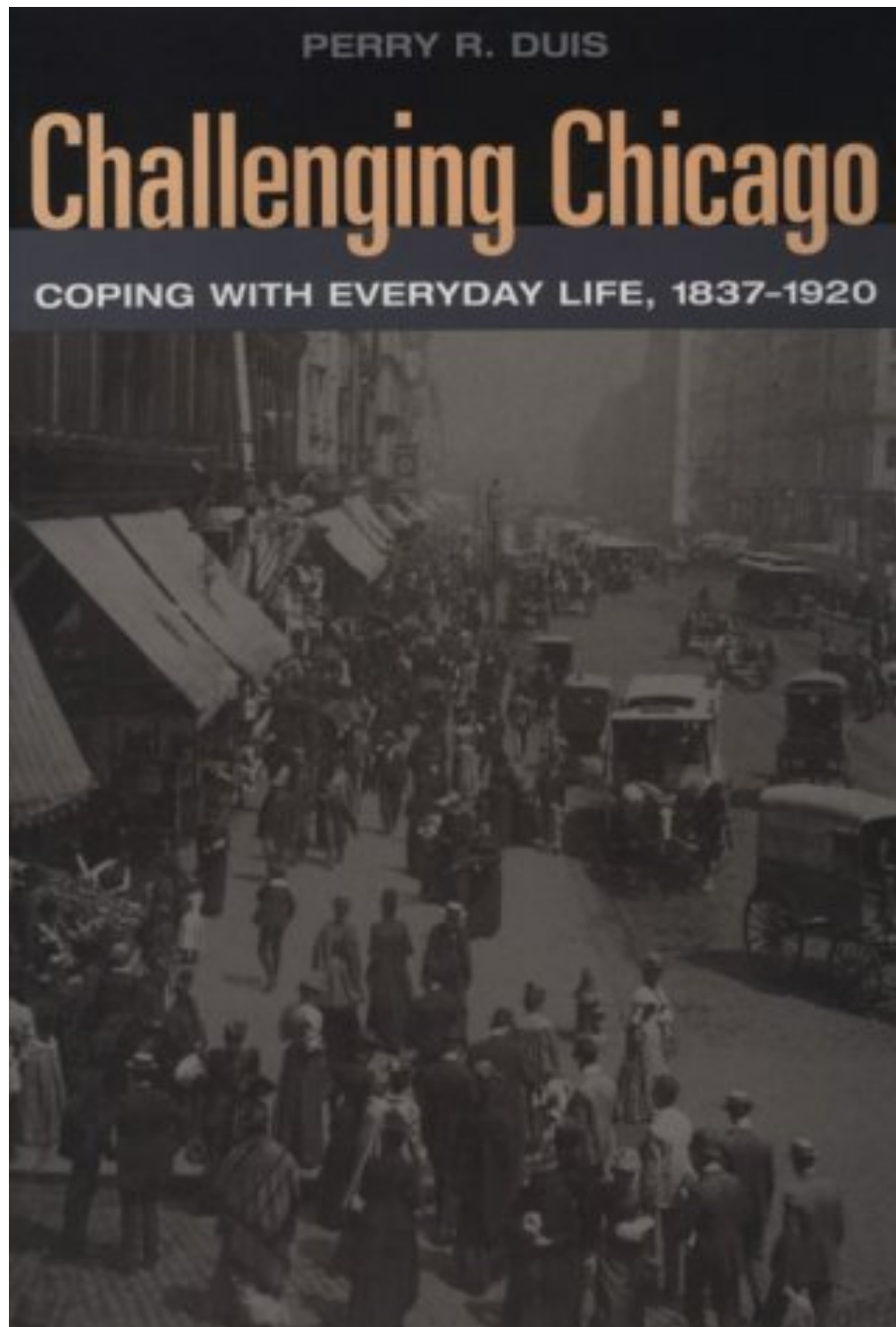


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"Not only is *Challenging Chicago* a model of how to turn a collection of articles into a book, it is one of the best books ever written about Chicago... Duis has mastered an incredible amount of information (the illustrations and endnotes are worth the price of the book)... After reading *Challenging Chicago* you will never again look at the urban landscape -- the streets, the river, the warehouses, the neighborhoods, the houses and the architecture -- without seeing the remains of the city that once was, and without thinking of the people who lived there." -- James L. Swanson, *Chicago Tribune* "A fascinating glimpse at the excitement as well as the dangers and risks of life in one of the world's great industrial cities... Chicago, a tough, wonderful place, finds expression in Duis's fascinating book." -- James R. Barrett, *The Historian*

## About the Author

Perry R. Duis, a professor of history at the University of Illinois at Chicago, is the author of *Chicago: Creating New Traditions* and other books.

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Risky city. This was Chicago during an unprecedented period of rapid growth: a burgeoning metropolis that quickly became a "concentration of risk." The many thousands of immigrants and rural Americans who streamed into the city during these years found it far more congested, crowded, dangerous, unpleasant, immoral, and unhealthy than they had anticipated. Challenging Chicago reveals the survival strategies to which the many people who flocked to the city resorted, especially those of the lower and middle classes for whom urban life was a new experience.

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- Published on: 1998-07-01
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- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 1.26" h x 7.28" w x 10.31" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
- 448 pages

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## Most helpful customer reviews

9 of 10 people found the following review helpful.

A must read for every reader of Chicago history.

By [barbnkevin@voyager.net](mailto:barbnkevin@voyager.net)

For anyone who knows the challenges of "coping with every day life" in Chicago, in this book lies many surprises. Modern day dwellers of Chicago will appreciate all those who came before them. Modern day historians of Chicago will wish they wrote this book. I, admittedly a representative of both groups, look at Chicago and it's history with a greater understanding of the people who "coped" before me. People are the key. From the first page the reader begins to identify with the needs and dreams of people just trying to make

ends meet. The origins of our neighborhoods and the history of the people who built them give meaning and surprising insight how Chicago is the sum of all its parts. Challenging Chicago also offers a treasure of old photographs that add to the story of everyday life in Chicago. If you're buying a book on Chicago this year- buy this one. Your next walk down the streets of Chicago will come alive with the stories of people who walked there first.

3 of 5 people found the following review helpful.

The Development of a City Culture

By John A. Green

This book really touched me very deeply. My family came to the city during the late 1800's. The struggles of the people and the mass of challenges they faced seems daunting to those of us who are ancestors.

This book truly gave me a new perspective on the struggles that my family went through when they settled in Chicago. It gives me a new view of life as we now have it compared to those days.

One would never really understand what the people of Chicago faced during the growth of the city during the era discussed in this book. Duiz captured the essence of the struggles quite well.

To the author, I say, "Thanks for the wonderful insights you gave me! "

4 of 6 people found the following review helpful.

The Development of a City Culture

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