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[Review of] History in Sherman Park: An American Family During the Reagan-Mondale Election

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Although not as powerful as his Fate of the Earth (LJ 4/15/82), Schell's sixth book is a compelling analysis of voting decisions made by a suburban Milwaukee couple, their family, and friends. Schell records the subjects' comments and his observations and analysis. Most of the subjects came of age in the 1960s and 1970s; by exploring their histories, Schell considers changes in the political climate over 25 years. Recurring themes are the economy, the "optimism-pessimism dichotomy" of the Reagan-Mondale election, and the receding interest in political issues among today's voting-age population. An interesting slice-of-life look at voting decisions.—Robert Aken, Univ. of Kentucky Lib., Lexington.