



ROB GIFFORD
ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

*Information and text courtesy of www.npr.org and www.amazon.com.
For more information please visit www.springfieldpublicforum.org.*

1. Gifford, Rob. *China Road: A Journey into the Future of a Rising Power*. Random House, 2007.

National Public Radio China correspondent Gifford journeyed for six weeks on China's Mother Road, Route 312, from its beginning in Shanghai for nearly 3,000 miles to a tiny town in what used to be known as Turkestan. The route picks up the old Silk Road, which runs through the Gobi Desert to Central Asia to Persia and on to Europe. Along the way, Gifford meets entrepreneurs hoping to cash in on China's growing economy, citizens angry and frustrated with government corruption, older people alarmed at changes in Chinese culture and morality, and young people uncertain and excited about the future. Gifford profiles ordinary Chinese people coping with tumultuous change as development and commerce shrink a vast geography, bringing teeming cities and tiny towns into closer commercial and cultural proximity; the lure of wealth is changing the Chinese character and sense of shared experience, even if it was common poverty. Gifford notes an aggressive sense of competition in the man-eat-man atmosphere of a nation that is likely to be the next global superpower. (Vanessa Bush, American Library Association.)

For more information: http://www.amazon.com/China-Road-Journey-Future-Rising/dp/B000R38A48/ref=dp_kinw_strp_1.

2. Gifford, Rob. "On the Road in China." *Morning Edition*. National Public Radio, 2004.

China, considered the next world superpower in the making, has surpassed Japan as Asia's economic dynamo. In a seven-part series on *Morning Edition*, NPR's Rob Gifford sets out on a 3,000-mile, 14-day trek across China, and discovers just how far the world's most populous nation has to go to catch up with its potential. The seven sections include: "The Journey Begins: Shanghai, China's Boomtown," "High Taxes and Corruption in China's Rural Heartland," "Prostitution, Religion Resurface in Wake of Reforms," "Scraping By on the Desert's Edge," "The New Silk Road," "Talking Politics with a Truck Driver," and "The Far West, Journey's End." His first book, *China Road: A Journey into the Future of a Rising Power*, is based upon this report. (NPR.)

For more information: http://www.npr.org/programs/morning/features/2004/aug/china_road/.

3. Gifford, Rob. "US on List of UNICEF's Worst Countries for Kids." *All Things Considered*. National Public Radio: February 14, 2007.

From "Most Emailed Stories by Rob Gifford." A new report from the U.N. Children's Fund says the United States and Britain are the worst countries in the industrialized world in which to be a child. UNICEF says an examination of 40 factors, such as poverty, deprivation, happiness, relationships, and risky or bad behavior puts the United States

and Britain at the bottom of a list of 21 economically developed nations. Gifford further explains the alarming US and British rankings in comparison to other countries, the nature of the research completed, what the results mean, and how we got there. (NPR.)

For more information: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=7407245>.

4. **Gifford, Rob. “Ancient Village Lifts Some of Stonehenge’s Mystery.” *Day to Day*. National Public Radio: January 30, 2007.**

From “Most Emailed Stories by Rob Gifford” Until recently, very little was known about the site, except that it was built about 4,500 years ago, at the time of the Egyptian pyramids. Now, new evidence has made Stonehenge's origins much clearer. Funded by the *National Geographic Society*, archaeologists have uncovered a nearby ancient settlement that once housed hundreds of people — possibly the builders of Stonehenge. In this online article, Gifford briefly describes some of the new information discovered about this mysterious monument and the religious significance behind it all. Quotes and photo galleries included from the *National Geographic* staff. (NPR.)

For more information: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=7079585>.

5. **Gifford, Rob. “Winehouse Blazes Trails for UK Female Singers.” *Morning Edition*. National Public Radio: February 8, 2008.**

From “Most Emailed Stories by Rob Gifford.” In this online article, Gifford discusses the British phenomenon Amy Winehouse and the huge impact she has had on the music industry for British young female artists. Despite her recent setbacks – rejection of her visa request and more notably, her time in rehabilitation for alcohol and drug abuse – Winehouse has topped the charts and set a new standard for vocalists across the board. Thanks to her impressive record sales and unique style, Winehouse has opened doors for so many others and has “changed the landscape of British music and paved the way for a whole new generation of young female singers.” Gifford commends Winehouse for her groundbreaking work and discusses the careers of some of the other female artists. (NPR.)

For more information: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=18789325>.

6. **Gifford, Rob, and Melissa Block. “China Tightens Control on Corruption, Quake Stories.” *All Things Considered*. National Public Radio: June 12, 2008.**

After allowing an initial openness when a deadly and powerful quake struck China's Sichuan Province, government officials tightened access for news media publishing stories about the corruption that led to the collapse of so many schools. (NPR.)

For more information: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=91441616>.

7. **Gifford, Rob. “China Races to Give Refugees Housing, Work.” *All Things Considered*. National Public Radio: June 9, 2008.**

Nearly a month after an earthquake devastated southern China, the government is trying to build temporary housing for hundreds of thousands of people now living in tents. China is also trying to find work for the refugees, many of whose offices and workplaces collapsed in the earthquake. (NPR.)

For more information: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=91327120>.