

Hamburger Edition Foreign Rights Guide

Studies in the History of Violence

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Kerstin Bischl

On the Front: Gender Relations and the Dynamics of Violence in the Red Army, 1941–1945

Studies in the History of Violence



Frontbeziehungen.
Geschlechterverhältnisse und
Gewaltdynamiken in der Roten
Armee 1941–1945
ca. 120 000 words / 350 pages
ISBN 978-3-86854-332-2
Paperback, March 2019

Available rights
All languages

What were relations like between men and women fighting in the Red Army during World War II? And did the conditions and constellation in the Soviet military contribute to setting the stage for the brutal violence perpetrated against women by Soviet soldiers as the war ended?

The Soviet Red Army was unique among the armies involved in World War II in that a relatively large number of women, some eight hundred thousand, fought alongside more than thirty million men against the troops of the German Wehrmacht. Female Soviet soldiers have been the focus of a growing body of historical research and of some debates. But there has been considerably less attention paid to gender relations in the Soviet Army in the period 1941 to 1945—and to how they might relate to the practice of violence, especially sexual violence, by members of the Red Army during the war and immediately after its end.

This book reconstructs key aspects of the social relations between men and women in the Red Army at the front, based on analysis of a wide range of archival documents and first-person narratives. Kerstin Bischl assesses the specific structural constellation within Soviet front units: both sexes had to endure at times arbitrary repressive measures and violence perpetrated by higher-ups, the danger and ordeals of life on the frontlines, inadequate provisioning and medical care, and general organizational chaos. Women, however, also constantly faced massive sexual harassment and abuse at the hands of their male comrades.

Bringing together analysis of the front as a microcosm in which radicalized forms of extreme violence become an everyday occurrence and a reconstruction of discourses on sexuality, masculinity, and sexual potency that predominated among male soldiers, Bischl's argues that some conceptions about sexual violence against women perpetrated by members of the Red Army should be reassessed. She highlights the function of such acts as a medium of communication and »community-building« among men in the military, rather than chiefly as a form of taking revenge on or triumphing over the defeated enemy population in Germany. This argument is supported by her assessment of reported sexual violence against other groups of women in the territories conquered by the Red Army—female displaced persons and Polish women—as the war reached its end.

Kerstin Bischl is a researcher in the Department of Modern Eastern European History at Georg August University in Göttingen. Her work centers on Soviet history and Jewish history in eastern Europe, in particular on the history of gender and the history of violence.

Harriet Scharnberg

The »Jewish Question« in Images: Antisemitism and Nazi Photojournalism

Studies in the History of Violence



Die »Judenfrage« im Bild.
Der Antisemitismus in national-
sozialistische Fotoreportagen
ca. 130 000 words / 443 pages
95 images
ISBN 978-3-86854-325-4
Paperback, September 2018

Available rights
All languages

»Harriet Scharnberg has presented an excellent study that will impress readers with its immense body of historical sources, insightful methodology, and thoughtfully argued analysis. This is one of the first comprehensive empirical studies on the Nazi era in the field of ›visual history‹ that takes photographs as historical sources seriously and arrives at new research insights.« – Michael Wildt, Humboldt Universität Berlin

Censorship, repression, and control of public opinion: this is the first comprehensive examination of how photo reporting in print media served as a key instrument to promote antisemitic policies in Nazi Germany. The heyday of photojournalism was in its early phase when the Nazis came to power in the early 1930s. Illustrated magazines, the most important format for disseminating photographic images, reached millions of people. The Nazis moved quickly to install an authority charged with controlling photojournalism and overseeing the use of images to influence public opinion.

Harriet Scharnberg analyzes the Nazi use of imagery in presenting the so-called »Jewish question« and Jewish life—in the German Reich, in the occupied territories, and in the countries with which it formed alliances. She focuses on the key period from the November Pogrom in 1938 (also referred to as the Kristallnacht), when illustrated media were forced to support an antisemitic propaganda campaign for the first time, to the beginning of the so-called Final Solution in 1942/43, when a systematic ban on any mention of the »Jewish question« in the media was implemented.

Looking behind the images to reconstruct the context of their production and use, this book is based on analysis of a wealth of primary sources, many previously unknown or thought to have been destroyed: official documents from press monitoring authorities, nearly 1.4 million photos taken by the Wehrmacht's propaganda units, photos in eleven major magazines, and the archives of key news and photo agencies, including the Berlin bureau of Associated Press. Scharnberg uncovers the strategies that determined which photographs were published and which remained under lock and key—strategies that were by turns conciliatory or deceptive, distortive or suggestive.

Harriet Scharnberg is a historian associated with Martin Luther University in Halle, Germany, whose work focuses on photographs in contemporary history. She was previously a photo archivist at the Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial and a researcher for a major exhibition project on crimes of the German Wehrmacht in World War II (»Verbrechen der Wehrmacht: Dimensionen des Vernichtungskrieges 1941–1944«).

Scharnberg received the award »Zeitgeschichte digital« in 2017 for a journal article reporting her findings from this study, examining how Associated Press ceded influence over production of its images to the Nazi regime. Her work prompted AP to commission a review of the agency's bureau and its activities in Germany from 1931 to 1945.

Johannes Schwartz

»Female Affairs«: Female Concentration Camp Guards in Ravensbrück and Neubrandenburg

Studies in the History of Violence



»Weibliche Angelegenheiten«
Handlungsräume von
KZ-Aufseherinnen in Ravens-
brück und Neubrandenburg
ca. 130 000 words / 448 pages
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All languages

In Nazi concentration camps, female guards occupied a key position in the chain of command between male SS leaders and female prisoner-functionaries. These women were responsible for a considerable part of the violence routinely perpetrated against female camp inmates.

According to the staff manual for those who worked at Ravensbrück, the largest Nazi concentration camp for women on German territory, the chief female guard was to advise the camp compound leader »with respect to all female affairs«. And the camp regulations explicitly prohibited »any abuse of inmates« by camp guards. Nevertheless, violence perpetrated by guards was an everyday occurrence.

Johannes Schwartz examines the violent practices of concentration camp guards in the Ravensbrück camp and its satellite camp Neubrandenburg. To what extent did the guards have opportunities to decide whether or not they would use coercion or physical force, beyond the scope of express orders? How and when did they make use of such opportunities? Schwartz's analysis reveals that, in actual practice, the camp leadership delegated the decision to use physical violence to the female guards. Like their male colleagues, many female guards perpetrated, without experiencing interventions on the part of their superiors, various forms of violence—from psychological and »gentle« coercion to excessive and capricious violence, from instrumental abuse to exemplary punishment.

The author analyzes how the violent practices of female guards conformed to the goals of the camp administration and the war industries that exploited prisoners as laborers. As a result, the guards' use of coercion and force contributed to stabilizing the internal power structure and securing inmates' productivity. Overall, however, individual options and their limits were determined to a large extent by power politics, competition, and other factors that shaped social relations among the staff of the concentration camps. What remained as a constant was the drastic imbalance of power between prisoners and guards. The unpredictability and erratic variability of the guards' actions served to cement, again and again, their power over the female inmates of the Nazi concentration camps.

Johannes Schwartz is a historian. He investigates the provenance of holdings (books and autographs) for the Museums for Cultural History and the City Archives of Hanover, the capital of Lower Saxony, with a focus on cases of suspected Nazi looting. He was formerly director of the Lichtenburg Pretin Concentration Camp Memorial and on the academic staff of the Documentation and Cultural Center of German Sinti and Roma and has conducted research and curated exhibitions at various German memorial sites, including Ravensbrück.

Svenja Bethke

Dance on the Razor's Edge: Criminality and Law in the Warsaw, Lodz, and Vilna Ghettos

Studies in the History of Violence



Tanz auf Messers Schneide
Kriminalität und Recht in den
Ghettos Warschau,
Litzmannstadt und Wilna
ca. 116 000 words / 317 pages
ISBN 978-3-86854-295-0
Paperback, September 2015

Rights sold
World English (University of Toronto Press)

- Geisteswissenschaften International Award, translation funding German-to-English
- Irma Rosenberg Prize, Austrian Society for Contemporary History, Institute of Contemporary History at the University of Vienna, and City of Vienna
- Immanuel Kant Prize, German Federal Commission for Culture and the Media
- Research Prize of the Polish Consulate in Hamburg

»An impressive contribution to scholarship on the key questions of survival, cooperation, and opposition during the Shoah. Keenly aware of the highly-charged emotional and political issues involved, her work is carefully researched and argued and sensitively written.« – Stefanie Schüler-Springorum, Center for Research on Antisemitism, Technical University Berlin

»Criminality« and »law« in the ghettos established in eastern Europe by Nazi Germany—a seeming paradox, considering how the Nazi regime subjected the European Jews to arbitrary rule under circumstances that defied any notion of justice before sending them to be murdered in the concentration camps. And yet, specific legal norms did develop in the ghettos. The so-called Jewish councils (Judenräte) established after the German occupation were forced to play a key role in implementing measures that met the Nazis' demands: collecting valuables, organizing the work force, and ultimately facilitating mass murder.

The councils developed new definitions of criminal behavior and law and attempted to enforce them with the help of the Jewish police and the ghetto courts and prisons. All of these definitions centered on behavior considered a threat to the ghetto community, involving crimes as diverse as smuggling, »illegal production of candies«, counterfeiting ration cards, sexual abuse, and murder perpetrated against other ghetto inhabitants.

Svenja Bethke examines how Jewish authorities in the ghettos in Warsaw, Litzmannstadt, and Vilnius made great efforts to utilize legal instruments to protect the community and maintain an internal moral code. Her analysis demonstrates the tragic nature of their futile attempts to adapt to the horrific circumstances they were forced to impose on ghetto inhabitants. As this reconstruction reveals, life in the ghetto community was much more complex than notions of victims struggling collectively to survive might suggest.

»An illuminating study of Jewish »crime« and methods of its punishment in the ghettos ... excels in discussing the difficult role and dilemma of members of the Judenräte«. – Katarzyna Person, *sehепunkte*

Svenja Bethke is a lecturer for twentieth century European history at the University of Leicester and associated with its Stanley Burton Centre for Holocaust and Genocide Studies. Previously a researcher at the Institute for the History of the German Jews in Hamburg, she completed her doctorate in history at the University of Hamburg. For the study upon which this book is based, she received the Immanuel Kant Research Prize from the German Federal Commissioner for Culture and the Media and the Research Prize of the Polish Consulate General in Hamburg.

Sara Berger

Experts of Extermination: The T4-Reinhardt Network in the Belzec, Sobibor, and Treblinka Camps

Studies in the History of Violence



Experten der Vernichtung:
Das T4-Reinhardt-Netzwerk in
den Lagern Belzec, Sobibor und
Treblinka
ca. 198 000 words / 622 pages
22 images
ISBN 978-3-86854-268-4
Paperback, October 2013

Available rights
All languages

- 2015 Sybil Halpern Milton Book Prize for the best book in Holocaust Studies (2013/2014), awarded by the German Studies Association, USA
- Recipient of the 2012 Wilhelm Hollenberg Prize, Ruhr University Bochum

In the course of the so-called »Aktion Reinhardt« carried out between late 1941 and the end of 1943 in three extermination camps—Belzec, Sobibor, and Treblinka—far more victims of Nazi exterminatory policies were murdered than at the infamous camp Auschwitz-Birkenau. The significance of »Aktion Reinhardt« has long been overlooked. Some 120 Germans and Austrians were the main perpetrators of these crimes. Nearly all of them had previous experience with mass murder—experience gained in the Nazi »euthanasia« program, now generally referred to as »Action T4«, because the Berlin office that coordinated these murders was located at Tiergartenstraße 4 in Berlin.

As planners and functionaries, these men used their knowledge to design camps and gas chambers, to coordinate guard details or themselves serve as guards. Many of them were not satisfied with merely following orders to perpetrate murder. They also abused and killed people completely arbitrarily. With their subsequent participation in the systematic murder of Europe's Jews as part of the so-called »Aktion Reinhardt«, the T4 men irrevocably became experts of extermination.

Sara Berger has written an impressive portrayal of the close network of relationships among these men. She has analyzed key aspects, including the men's readiness to obey and the individual options for actions as well as the significance of group pressure, the structural framework, and situative dynamics, as they shaped the intentions and responsibility of this collective in perpetrating genocide. Her book offers highly disturbing insights into the motives and the »efficiency« of individual perpetrators and the entire group.

»Dr. Berger's wide-ranging study offers a novel interpretation of the organization of power in the Nazi extermination camps. Her book is a worthy successor to Henry Friedlander's groundbreaking research where it highlights the complex imbrication of the murder of the disabled with the Shoah. [...] Nearly every page is painfully evocative; where other books provide only few details she has compiled hundreds, all of which are presented with luminous eloquence and restraint.« – **Laudation, GSA Prize Committee, Sybil Halpern Milton Book Prize**

Sara Berger studied history and Italian literature at the Ruhr University Bochum and the Università degli Studi di Genova. She is now a researcher with the Fondazione Museo della Shoah in Rome.

Alexander Korb

In the Shadow of World War: The Ustaša's Mass Violence against Serbs, Jews, and Roma in Croatia, 1941–1945

Studies in the History of Violence



Im Schatten des Weltkriegs:
Massengewalt der Ustaša gegen
Serben, Juden und Roma in
Kroatien 1941–1945

ca. 156 000 words / 510 pages
33 images and maps
ISBN 978-3-86854-259-2
Paperback, March 2013

Rights sold

World English (Oxford University
Press); Italian (Massari Editore)

• **Geisteswissenschaften International Special Prize and translation funding**

• **Fraenkel Prize 2012, Wiener Library, London; Irma Rosenberg Prize, Vienna;
Andrej Mitrovic Prize, Bonn; Herbert Steiner Prize 2012, Vienna**

Croatia, in World War II nominally an independent state but in fact divided into German and Italian occupation zones, was one of the most multiethnic regions in Hitler's Europe. Ending this diversity was the goal of the Croatian Ustaša, founded in 1929 as a militant, völkisch-nationalistic organization by Ante Pavelić. The civil war initiated by the Ustaša militias aimed to transform Croatia into an ethnically homogenous national state.

The Ustaša have generally been perceived either as Hitler's henchmen or irrational, murderous nationalists responsible for the deaths of half a million people. Korb's comprehensive and nuanced analysis challenges both interpretations to explore the ambiguities and dynamics of mass violence in Croatia. An introduction on the Ustaša, its ideology, plans and relations with the Germans and Italians is followed by in-depth analysis of expulsion and population transfers to implement »ethnic homogenization«, massacres perpetrated during the ensuing chaos and civil war, and mass death in the Ustaša's internment camps.

Korb shows how the Ustaša made use of opportunities created by civil war and the occupation to promote their own independent agenda. Violence against Serbs, Jews, and Roma, he argues, were closely linked and persecution of the Jews related to the radicalization of anti-Serbian policies. Moreover, factors such as the micro-regional context, warlordism, geography, crop harvests, and local infrastructure also determined the trajectory of violence.

Soon, the Ustaša were themselves increasingly driven by the dynamics of the violence they unleashed. Mass murder of Serbs, Jews, and Roma was as much a result of the Ustaša's loss of control in a disintegrating state as a manifestation of ethnic purity policies. Its impacts continue to be felt in the Balkans today.

»Alexander Korb has presented an important book—important because there has been a lack of fundamental research on Ustaša rule in Croatia; important because he can explain occurrences more precisely and better than other work to date; and, finally, important because he capably brings together comprehensive knowledge of the sources and a theoretically-oriented approach.« — **Armin Heinen, *H-Soz-u-Kult***

»The great strength of 'Im Schatten des Weltkriegs' lies in its critical scrutiny of sources, its mistrust of mainstream, politically-skewed interpretations of the Ustasa's regime of violence. ... On the historically and politically contested terrain of the Balkans, Korb has probably made enemies on all sides with his clear-sighted and unsparing analysis. He can consider that to be a compliment.« — **Danijel Majic, *Berliner Zeitung***

Alexander Korb is a historian and lecturer in modern European history at the University of Leicester and acting director of the university's Stanley Burton Centre for Holocaust and Genocide Studies.

Gerhard Wolf

Ideology and the Rationality of Domination: Nazi Germanization Policies in West Poland

Studies in the History of Violence



Ideologie und Herrschaftsrationalität: Nationalsozialistische Germanisierungspolitik in Westpolen ca. 168 000 words / 528 pages
19 images and 1 map
ISBN 978-3-86854-245-5
Paperback, March 2012

Rights sold

World English (Indiana University Press)

· Geisteswissenschaften International Award, translation funding German-to-English

»By pursuing Nazi policies into the local settings of their messy and uneven implementation, Gerhard Wolf brings much-needed clarity to the vexed question of ideology and its place in the system of Nazi rule.« –Geoff Eley, *University of Michigan*

Gerhard Wolf has taken an in-depth look at how the various institutions involved in the Nazi occupation regime in Poland—the SS, the civil administrations and the Reich Ministry of the Interior—operated in actual practice, leading to conflict and dissent between the actors involved. While the SS insisted on allowing only a chosen few to be »Germanized« and based their selection primarily on »racial« criteria, local administrators aimed to pacify and integrate a large part of the Polish majority and thus applied broader cultural or political definitions of who was to be »German«. With the attack on the Soviet Union, economic interests and the need to supply laborers to replace the German men being drafted became of paramount importance. Rather than being deported to the East as planned, Poles were sent to work in factories and on farms in the »Altreich«.

As Wolf demonstrates, racist ideology and the demands of establishing a viable system of domination and of the war economy clashed. The SS with its adherence to strict racial criteria in the occupied territories was often forced to policies shaped by other Nazi authorities, who chose instead to adopt more flexible strategies. Although the goals of persecuting and annihilating the Jewish population and extending German domination to all of Europe were not questioned, how these goals were to be reached was determined in complex ways.

»Gerhard Wolf's excellent book shows that National Socialist ethnopolitics owed much more than its most vocal proponents were prepared to admit to pre-1933 nationalist conceptions of belonging and exclusion. Focusing on the expulsion and assimilation policies of the German state towards non-Jewish peoples in the annexed territories of western Poland, the places where population engineering was most extensive in the German sphere of power, it shows most convincingly that the master concept »Volk« has more heuristic power than that of »race«. Wolf's study breaks down a false dichotomy of »ideology« and »pragmatism« as determinants of policy. He shows instead how issues that were at one and the same time »practical« and »principled«...were interpreted and reinterpreted in light of circumstances on the ground, of different manifestations of what was never a monolithic ideology, and of the ethnopolitical truism that »inclusion« was always the obverse side of »exclusion«.« –Donald Bloxham, *University of Edinburgh*

Gerhard Wolf is a reader in German history at the Centre for German-Jewish Studies, University of Sussex. His research in the history of Nazi Germany focuses on occupation policies in eastern Europe, population policies, and the causes of racism and anti-Semitism.

Stefan Wiese

Pogroms in Czarist Russia: The Dynamics of Collective Violence

Studies in the History of Violence



Pogrome im Zarenreich. Dynamiken kollektiver Gewalt
ca. 110 000 words / 329 pages
4 images and 2 maps
ISBN 978-3-86854-304-9
Paperback, September 2016

Available rights
All languages

»... a highly readable, instructive, and, above all, much-needed reassessment of pogroms during the tsarist empire.« Anke Hilbrenner, *H-Soz-Kult*, June 2017

Russia was the land of pogroms—that was at least the widespread perception in many parts of Europe around 1900. In many languages, the Russian term »pogrom« became synonymous with a specific form of violence that was generally anti-Jewish. But what was specific about pogroms? Who was involved in perpetrating them? Did they occur spontaneously or were they planned? And why did they take place in such numbers in the Russian Empire?

Answers to these and other questions are revealed by Wiese's careful study of the actions of those involved—perpetrators, victims, bystanders, and representatives of the state authorities. Each group had specific resources and pursued specific goals, and each group observed the others and responded by adapting its actions accordingly. The results of these interactions were situations that created opportunities for violence or prevented its occurrence. Stefan Wiese argues that, in pogroms that targeted Jews, the strategies and resources of the actors involved played a more significant role than the heritage of antisemitism. Evidence that supports this finding comes from his comparative analysis of pogrom violence in Russia that was directed against Armenians, Germans, and the intelligenzia.

With this investigation of what pogroms are and how they begin, develop, and come to an end, Wiese refutes misconceptions and recontextualizes earlier findings. His work underlines the significance of the contingencies of space and opportunity. This book offers a phenomenology of pogroms, as a specific form of collective violence in the final decades of the Russian Empire, that is an outstanding analytical achievement and highly readable, as well.

Stefan Wiese is a historian and an editor for H-Soz-Kult. Wiese studied history, psychology, and music studies at the University of Leipzig. He completed his doctorate at Humboldt University Berlin, where he was a researcher in the Department of Eastern European History from 2008 to 2014.

Christian Teichmann

Power and Disorder: Stalin's Regime in Soviet Central Asia, 1920–1950

Studies in the History of Violence



Macht der Unordnung. Stalins Herrschaft in Zentralasien, 1920–1950
ca. 85 000 words / 287 pages
ISBN 978-3-86854-298-1
Paperback, March 2016

Available rights
All languages

• **Hannah Arendt Prize 2016 for Christian Teichmann**

»This is an innovative study that opens up perspectives for further research and offers, moreover, with its references to other forms of imperial rule, insights for the history of Western Europe.« – Gabriele Metzler, Humboldt University Berlin

Water is a highly political resource. Dams, canals, and irrigation systems are intimately linked with the organization of state power. Many of the most ambitious and political significant projects in recent history were realized in the Soviet Union, especially in the vast expanses of Central Asia that came under Soviet rule in 1917. This book offers a compelling narrative of how megalomaniac irrigation projects were devised to expand existing infrastructure and intensify cotton production and secure Soviet independence from imports of this vital commodity. But beyond retracing the water policies and technology designed as the backbone of Soviet modernization in these arid regions, it addresses more complex historical issues in Soviet and Stalinist history.

The Bolsheviks initiated large-scale hydrotechnical constructions to further the goals of a centralized economy. But as Christian Teichmann demonstrates, they were also an instrument for establishing Soviet rule in far-flung corners of the USSR and supplanting traditional social structures, especially in the fragmented and heterogeneous societies in Central Asia. The new rulers did not perceive emancipatory nationality policies and the implementation of a centralized economy as contradictory but rather as part of a process designed to mitigate the consequences of Czarist “imperialism” and “colonialism”. In practice, the plans of Russian engineers and administrators frequently clashed with the interests of the Uzbek ruling elite and of local communists, as collectivization schemes, mass deportations, and other state violence ran counter to the original decolonization agenda.

Soviet water management in Central Asia increasingly led to the destruction not only of the existing technological and agricultural infrastructure. These policies destroyed, more fundamentally, the region’s social, political, and economic order. Indeed, the creation of disorder became an instrument for enforcing repressive Stalinist policies.

» Christian Teichmann’s argument about purposely generated disorder as a means of creating a new socialist state order is an innovative and thought-provoking new idea ...« – Beate Eschment, *H-Soz-u-Kult*

Christian Teichmann is a scholar of east European history and a research associate in the History Department of Humboldt University Berlin. He studied history at the Universities of Leipzig and Warsaw, was a lecturer at Samara State University in Russia, and completed his doctorate at Humboldt University.

Robert Kindler

Stalin's Nomads: Soviet Power and the Famine in Kazakhstan

Studies in the History of Violence



Stalins Nomaden. Herrschaft und Hunger in Kasachstan
ca. 110 000 words / 381 pages
14 images
ISBN 978-3-86854-277-6
Paperback, March 2014

Rights sold

World English (University of Pittsburgh Press); Russian (ROSSPEN Publishers)

• Geisteswissenschaften International Special Prize and translation funding

• Sixth place on Germany's most prestigious Best Non-Fiction Books List, August 2014

»Robert Kindler's book is superbly written and will be immediately understood, even by readers who are not familiar with the complex history of Stalinism.... Historiography cannot be more innovative than this.« – Sven Felix Kellerhoff, *Die Welt*

That millions died in the early 1930s in the Holodomor, the Ukrainian famine triggered by Bolshevik collectivization, has become common knowledge since the demise of the USSR. But although about 1.5 million people, or one third of Kazakhstan's population, perished in the same period, this chapter of Soviet history has largely remained a blank spot in international research and public memory.

Kindler's seminal book is a comprehensive and unsettling account of the Soviet campaign to sedentarize and collectivize the Kazakh clans, in which half a million nomads became refugees, three times more died, and a nomadic society was destroyed.

The Soviet authority perceived the nomads as a threat, especially to their ambitious plans to reorganize economic life in a vast territory. Nomads were an allegedly intolerable obstacle to creating a »rationally« planned economy, a perpetual source of conflicts over land use and water. Most importantly, their mobility and traditional clan networks effectively eluded Soviet control. Forced to meet senseless quotas for livestock and meat and then even for grain (which, lacking cattle to trade, they could no longer obtain from peasants), the Kazakhs starved to death, as did millions of their confiscated and then neglected animals, as tons of procured meat rotted for lack of storage and distribution. Clans who tried to flee to remoter areas or to China were marked as bandits and massacred by Bolshevik troops.

Deprived of livestock, their livelihood and source of mobility, and faced with the collapse of family networks that ensured mutual aid in times of need, the Kazakhs were incapable of resisting Soviet collectivization measures that often meant a slow death by starvation. By the time Stalin again allowed possession of livestock, lowered the quotas, and send food aid, his main political goal of controlling Kazakhstan had been realized, and its population had become a minority on its own territory: Sovietization by starvation.

Robert Kindler is a historian and lecturer in eastern European history at Humboldt University Berlin who has previously done research in Russia, Kazakhstan, and the US. The dissertation upon which this book is based won the 2013 Johan Gustav Droysen Prize, awarded by the Förderverein of the Department of History, Humboldt University Berlin.

Felix Schnell

Space for Terror: Violence and Group Militancy in the Ukraine, 1905 – 1933

Studies in the History of Violence



Räume des Schreckens:
Gewalt und Gruppenmilitanz in
der Ukraine 1905–1933
ca. 165 000 words / 575 pages
27 images
ISBN 978-3-86854-244-8
Hardback, March 2012

Available rights
All languages

»Schnell situates his study within the argumentative horizon of Timothy Snyder's *Bloodlands* ... But in contrast to Snyder ... Schnell presents a well-founded and precise analysis. ... a successful example of how today's perspectives on history and the historiography that goes with it engage with the issue of options for political action today...a substantial work of scholarship and an intellectual adventure«—Christoph Villinger, *Die Tageszeitung*

What happens when the state is unable to enforce its monopoly on the legitimate use of physical force? How do people react when simply taking what one wants becomes a viable option—if not for all, at least for all those with the means to impose their will upon others? These questions are raised by the situation that reigned in much of the Ukraine for a greater part of the period between 1905, the year of the first Russian Revolution, and 1933, when Soviet rule was consolidated and collectivization was finally implemented in rural areas.

Historian Felix Schnell takes up and adapts the sociological perspectives on violence discussed by Wolfgang Sofsky and others in the 1990s to investigate the collective violence that unfolded in this region on the periphery of the Russian and Soviet empires. The study focuses on three key periods: the time around the revolution of 1905 as a »laboratory for violence«, the civil war era from 1917 to 1923, and the collectivization period from 1927 to the early 1930s. His thick descriptions and analysis of pogroms, pillaging, and banditry and the actors involved in various parts of the Ukraine reveals that it was not ideology but rather the opportunities for action in a state of emergency that determined the course of events.

Violence, Schnell argues, is more than an instrument which forces others to relinquish their property. Its other functions are at times no less important: as a medium of communication that relays messages about power to others and as a means of establishing and stabilizing bonds and a sense of community within the group that perpetrates violence.

»With this book, Felix Schnell has presented a study that, with its theoretically-grounded approach and the sources it draws on, will set standards for all those who work on violence and the history of violence in eastern Europe. Schnell's well-written and convincing study is a fundamental, innovative contribution to key aspects of eastern European history in the twentieth century.« — Rudolf A. Mark, *H-Soz-u-Kult*

Felix Schnell is a scholar of eastern European history and lecturer at Humboldt University, Berlin. His work addresses domination, power, and violence in Russia and the Ukraine in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Silvan Niedermeier Racism and Civil Rights: Police Torture in the American South, 1930–1955

Studies in the History of Violence



Rassismus und Bürgerrechte.
Polizeifolter im Süden der USA
1930 – 1955
ca. 80 000 words / 287 pages
9 images
ISBN 978-3-86854-283-7
Paperback, September 2014

Rights sold
World English (University of North
Carolina Press)

· **Geisteswissenschaften International Award, translation funding German-to-English**

»This book explores uncharted waters with impressive results. Silvan Niedermeier's study of abuse and torture in police custody in the USA from 1930 to 1955 not only fills a gap in research, it is also eerily topical in view of current widespread torture practices to extort confessions. A doubly important book.« – Norbert Finzsch, University of Cologne

Police violence against Afroamericans and torture inside and outside of the United States have sparked massive protest in recent years. This book explores a little-known intersection of the two phenomena in practices that were widespread in the South from 1930 to 1955—torture perpetrated against African-Americans held in prisons, jails, and police stations.

Historian Silvan Niedermeier has mined archival sources—some used in historical research for the first time— as well as court records and press reporting to reconstruct these abuses as well as attempts by defendants to make torture an issue during trials. Moreover, his analysis of documents from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People retraces how Afro-American civil rights activists campaigned to end »forced confessions« and abuse in police custody. And he scrutinizes records of investigations conducted by the Justice Department and the FBI to reveal their role in combating torture.

This study of the history of police torture in the US South addresses key questions that remain pertinent today: How could such abuse become common practice for more than two decades? What conditions and structures have made it possible for torture to continue to be a widespread phenomenon?

Contents

Introduction

I. Police Torture and »Legal« Lynch Murders in the American South

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III. The NAACP Campaign against »Forced Confessions«

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V. Federal Investigations of Torture in the American South

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Jonas Kreienbaum

»A sad fiasco«: Colonial Concentration Camps in Southern Africa around 1900

Studies in the History of Violence



»Ein trauriges Fiasko«. Koloniale Konzentrationslager um 1900
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World English (Berghahn Books)

· **Geisteswissenschaften International Award, translation funding German-to-English**

»This is an impressive achievement, which ... sets numerous new accents in an intensely debated field and stands out in this context for its agreeably dispassionate approach.« – **Andreas Eckert, Humboldt University Berlin**

Within what has been referred to as the »colonial turn« in historiography and debates about the connections between massacres perpetrated in Europe's colonies and Nazi genocidal violence, the origins of concentration camps as sites of planned annihilation has become a centerpiece of heated discussions. This study offers an in depth assessment of archival sources on the British colony South Africa and German South West Africa to shed new light on the claim that there was a direct »path from Windhoek to Auschwitz«, as historian Jürgen Zimmerer and others have contended.

Kreienbaum systematically reconstructs the contexts of the two military conflicts and the goals pursued by the two colonial powers in erecting the camps to show that they were above all part of a military strategy. As in other colonial wars, differences between combatants and civilians were increasingly blurred, resulting in high numbers of civilian casualties. The day-to-day operation of these mass internment sites by disinterested and incompetent military leaders was the second decisive factor that resulted in dramatically rising death rates. But Kreienbaum's analysis shows clearly that neither intentional extermination of inmates nor tacit acceptance of death due to forced labor were part of the colonial powers' plans in establishing the camps. His systematic comparison of the camps in southern Africa with those created by Nazi Germany reveals that the differences between the two were considerably more significant than their similarities.

»Kreienbaum's book, with its focus on comparison and transfer, is an excellent study in the currently much-discussed field of research on 'camps'. Its precise and dispassionate treatment of larger issues and comparative consideration of colonial and Nazi camps provide a new empirical foundation for this debate and offer new answers for essential questions, especially thanks to the assessment and evaluation of completely new collections of sources.« – **Ulrike von Hirschhausen, University of Rostock**

Jonas Kreienbaum is a historian who joined the staff of the Department of History at the University of Rostock in 2012. He studied in Berlin and at the University of Nottingham and completed his doctorate at the Humboldt University Berlin in 2013.

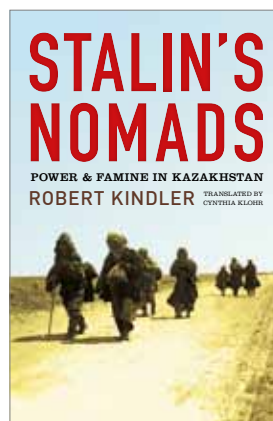
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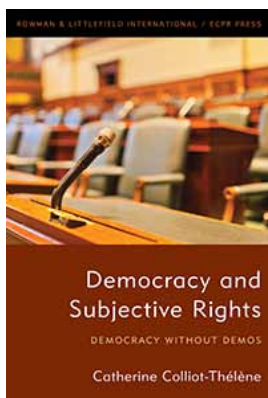
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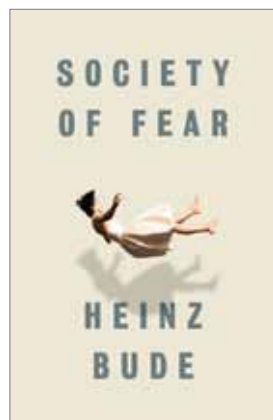
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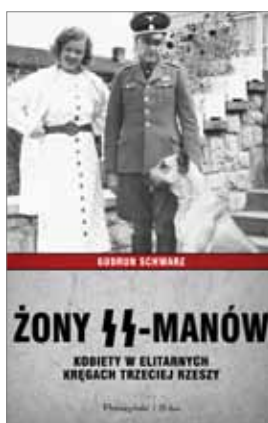
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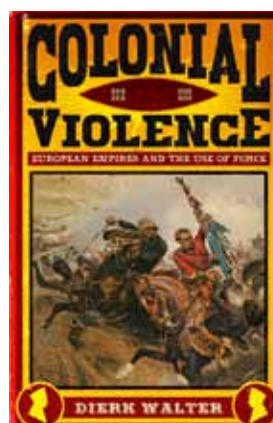
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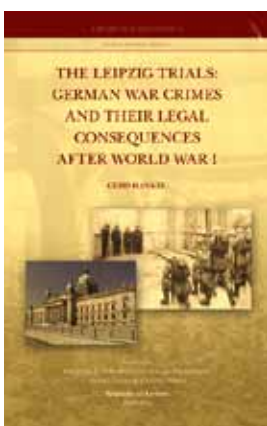
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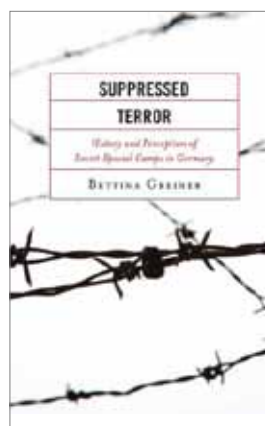
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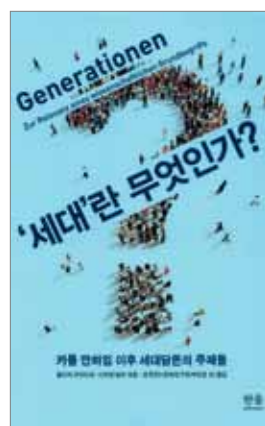
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