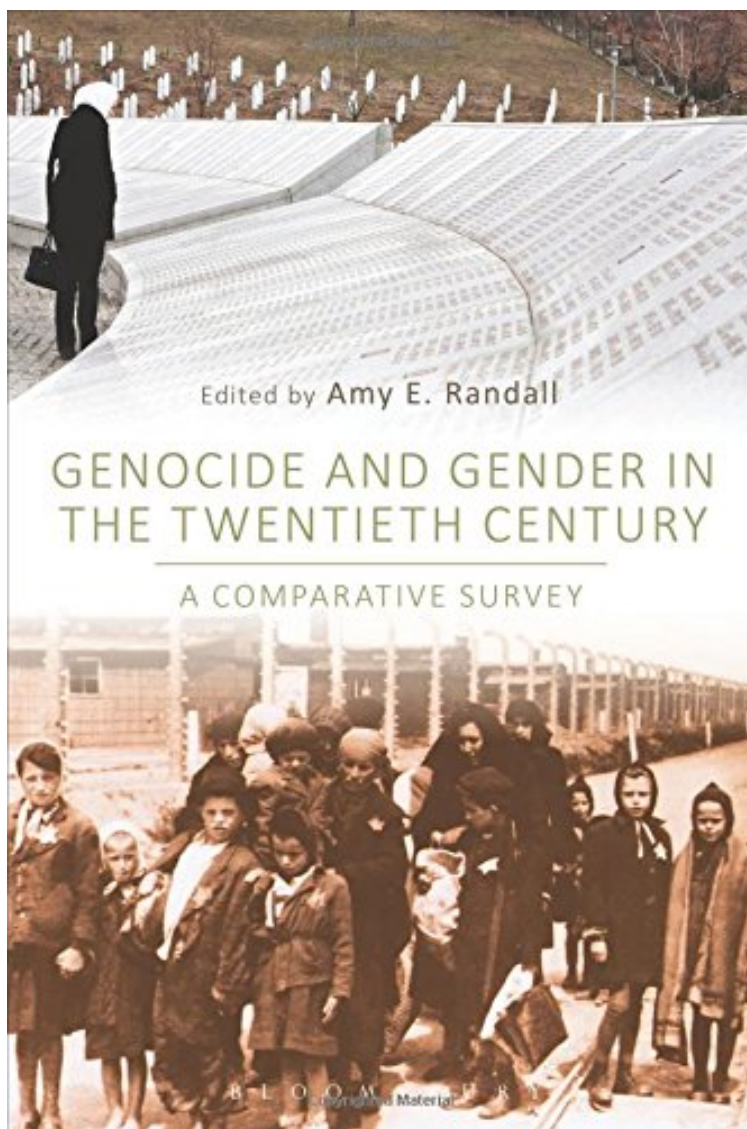


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Genocide and Gender in the Twentieth Century: A Comparative Survey

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From imusti : Genocide and Gender in the Twentieth Century: A Comparative Survey before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Genocide and Gender in the Twentieth Century: A Comparative Survey:

Genocide and Gender in the Twentieth Century brings together a collection of some of the finest genocide studies scholars in North America and Europe to examine gendered discourses, practices and experiences of ethnic cleansing and genocide in the 20th century. It includes essays focusing on the genocide in Rwanda, the Armenian genocide in the Ottoman Empire, the Holocaust and ethnic cleansing and genocide in the former Yugoslavia. The book looks at how historically- and culturally-specific ideas about reproduction, biology, and ethnic, national, racial and religious identity contributed to the possibility for and the unfolding of genocidal sexual violence, including mass rape. The book also considers how these ideas, in conjunction with discourses of femininity and masculinity, and understandings of female and male identities, contributed to perpetrators' tools and strategies for ethnic cleansing and genocide, as well as victims' experiences of these processes. This is an ideal text for any student looking to further understand the crucial topic of gender in genocide studies.

Randall (Santa Clara Univ.) has edited a compelling volume of essays exploring the intersections of gender and genocide, revealing important dimensions that take the field of genocide studies in new directions. For Randall, an examination of gender and genocide allows us to hear the voices and stories of women that are often overlooked and to read men's voices and stories in a more nuanced way. Divided into five parts, the 13 essays examine mass rape, complicity, and international law through case studies about genocide in Germany, Rwanda, Congo, Armenia, and Bosnia. Randall's inclusion of contributors from a variety of disciplines, including anthropology, law, and history, provides a disciplinary diversity that is particularly useful for undergraduates new to studying genocide. Considering gender in the context of genocide studies empowers students, faculty, and practitioners to not simply relegate genocide to body counts, but rather to see gendered and life force atrocities like rape as a red flag for the unfolding of genocidal violence. Summing Up: Essential. All levels/libraries. -CHOICE Obviously gender matters for understanding genocide: the Holocaust as well as the genocides in Armenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Rwanda which are at the centre of this important volume. We learn about women as victims and perpetrators, as well as about victimization and perpetration of men (as men), e.g. about the role which the dynamics of masculinity played for Holocaust perpetrators. Sexual violence, exerted on women (Rwanda) or on men (Bosnia) has been a strategy of genocide, though not in the Shoah where cross-race rape was banned. A praiseworthy highlight of this volume is the strong comparative dimension with its focus on gender-based similarities and differences: this is clearly a milestone in this field. Gisela Bock, Free University Berlin, Germany The study of genocide has increased in sophistication and range over the past fifteen years but the integration of gender analysis has not featured as prominently as it should. Gender and Genocide in the Twentieth Century is the volume for which the field has been waiting. Whether in highlighting the distinct rationales for targeting women and men and consequent divergent experiences of suffering, in specifying the motivations of perpetrators, modalities of destruction, or in disaggregating the gendered construction of groups themselves and gendered reconstruction of groups after genocide, this book demonstrates that gender is an essential and irreducible category of analysis. It is the definitive volume on the subject. Dirk Moses, European University Institute, Florence In the relatively new but rapidly expanding field of genocide studies, gender analysis is at the cutting edge and Genocide and Gender in the Twentieth Century represents some of the most current relevant research. Amy Randall has brought together prominent scholars, historians and legal experts, sharpened with in-depth field experience, to produce accessible, well-documented and thought-provoking evidentiary and analytical essays that will be greatly beneficial to students, scholars, lawyers, human rights and policy activists alike. Multiple case studies of the key genocides of the 20th century including Armenia, the Holocaust, Rwanda and Srebrenica convincingly demonstrate that the lens of gender provides profound insights, both historical and humanitarian, for making sense of the inconceivable crimes of mass identity-based violence. The essays present both female and male, victim and perpetrator-focused analysis, balancing gender consciousness against gender theory, and make a substantial contribution to understanding the causes, addressing the trauma, achieving justice, and preventing future genocides. Donna Maier, University of Northern Iowa, USA About the Author Amy E. Randall is Associate Professor of History at Santa Clara University, USA. She is the author of *The Soviet Dream World of Retail Trade and Consumption in the 1930s* (2008).