

EDITORIAL FOREWORD

Theoretical Interpretations of the Holocaust, edited by Dan Stone, is the fourth volume in the special series on Holocaust and Genocide Studies (HGS) of the Value Inquiry Book Series (VIBS). Amid the growing interest in the Anglophone philosophical world in French post-structuralism and its antecedents, the extent to which thinkers such as Maurice Blanchot, Pierre Klossowski, Georges Bataille, Jacques Derrida, Jean-François Lyotard, and Jean-Luc Nancy have been preoccupied with the Holocaust has been largely overlooked until now. Dan Stone has brought together a number of exciting young scholars who are among the first to explore the manifold ways in which this group of thinkers has sought to open up the question of the Holocaust and the ways the Extermination can be represented.

Stone's volume will not only illuminate the ways in which the Holocaust intersects with the concerns of some of the most important French thinkers of the past half century, shedding new light on the vexed issue of the ability of postmodernism to confront the Shoah, but it will also open up new perspectives on the unfolding of the Nazi genocide. The reader concerned with the implications of genocide for our modernity will be troubled by the paths of thinking taken by the philosophers and writers discussed in these essays, paths of thinking which may lead us to the realization that, as Dan Stone argues in his Introduction, the Holocaust "in some unnerving, threatening sense is not yet 'finished.'"

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