

Genocide in Jewish Thought

Among the topics explored in this book are ways of viewing the soul, the relation between body and soul, environmentalist thought, the phenomenon of torture, and the philosophical and theological warrants for genocide. Presenting an analysis of abstract modes of thought that have contributed to genocide, the book argues that a Jewish model of concrete thinking may inform our understanding of the abstractions that can lead to genocide. Its aim is to draw on distinctively Jewish categories of thought to demonstrate how the conceptual defacing of the other human being serves to promote the murder of peoples and to suggest a way of thinking that might help prevent genocide.

David Patterson holds the Hillel Feinberg Chair in Holocaust Studies in the Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies at the University of Texas at Dallas. He has taught at Oklahoma State University and the University of Oregon. A winner of the National Jewish Book Award and the Koret Jewish Book Award, Patterson has published more than 30 books and 140 articles and chapters in journals and books on philosophy, literature, Judaism, the Holocaust, and education. His writings have been anthologized in five different collections.

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Genocide in Jewish Thought

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CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
 978-1-107-01104-5 — Genocide in Jewish Thought
 David Patterson
 Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
 One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
 477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
 314-321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi - 110025, India
 103 Penang Road, #05-06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107011045

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First published 2012

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication data

Patterson, David, 1948–

Genocide in Jewish thought / David Patterson.

pages cm

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-107-01104-5

1. Genocide–Philosophy. 2. Thought and thinking–Philosophy.

3. Jewish philosophy. 4. Humanity–Philosophy. 5. Jewish ethics–

Philosophy. 6. Philosophy and religion. 7. Holocaust, Jewish

(1939–1945) 8. Hebrew language–Roots. I. Title.

B5802.G46P38 2012

296.3–dc23 2011046220

ISBN 978-1-107-01104-5 Hardback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-107-01104-5 — Genocide in Jewish Thought
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For my daughters

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Acknowledgments

I would like to express my thanks to the members of the Weinstein Symposium on Post-Holocaust Studies, who have helped me think about the world in concrete terms. I am also grateful to Anne Lovering Rounds and to Lewis Bateman of Cambridge University Press, whose encouragement has been central to the completion of this work. Finally, I would like to say a word of thanks to Dr. Hobson Wildenthal, provost of the University of Texas at Dallas, whose generous support helped make this project possible.