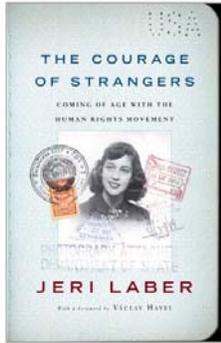


Recommended Reading List

Books by Human Rights Watch Staff



Jeri Laber

The Courage of Strangers

The Courage of Strangers relates how Laber became a founder and the executive director of Helsinki Watch, which grew to be Human Rights Watch, one of the world's most influential human rights organizations. She describes her secret trips to unwelcoming countries 25 years ago, where she met with some of the great political activists of the time. She also recalls what it was like to come of age professionally in an era when women were supposed to follow rather than lead; how she struggled to balance work and family; and how her fight for human rights informed her own intellectual, spiritual and emotional development.

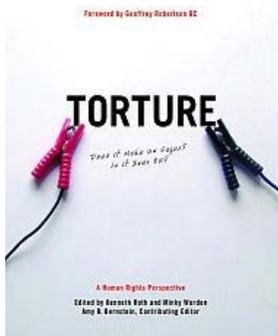
Jeri Laber is member of the Europe and Central Asia Advisory Committee and former Executive Director of Helsinki Watch.



Daniel Wilkinson

Silence on the Mountain: Stories of Terror, Betrayal, and Forgetting in Guatemala

Written in the vein of a Robert Kaplan travel journal, this profound book traces the history of Guatemala's 36-year internal struggle through personal interviews that recount the heartwrenching stories of plantation owners, army officials, guerrillas and the wretchedly poor peasants stuck in the middle. Wilkinson's narrative unfolds gradually, beginning with his quest to unlock the mysteries of the short-lived 1952 Law of Agrarian Reform, which saw the redistribution of land to the working class.

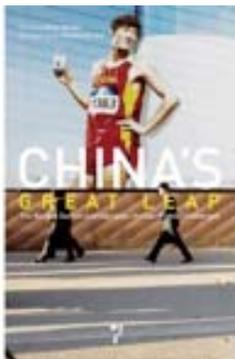


Kenneth Roth and Minky Worden, ed.

Torture: Does It Make Us Safer? Is It Ever OK?

Of all the issues on the international human rights agenda, torture has given Americans the moral high ground...until now. With the recent abuses at Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo, the question of cruel and degrading treatment has taken on a new urgency in the United States and elsewhere. For the first time, we are being told that torture may in fact be necessary in some cases to prevent a future terrorist attack. What are we to make of this radical shift in policy given its discord with fundamental human values? In *Torture*, fifteen newly written essays by leading thinkers and experts cross history and continents to offer a nuanced, up-to-the-minute exploration of this wrenching but crucial topic.

Kenneth Roth is the Executive Director of Human Rights Watch.

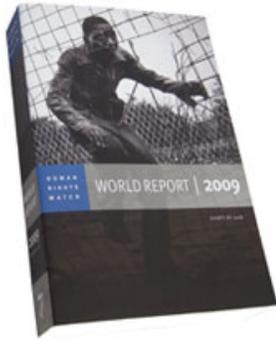


Minky Worden, ed.

China's Great Leap: The Beijing Games and Olympian Human Rights Challenges

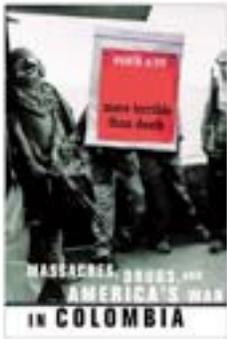
Drawing on the expertise of many of the world's leading China thinkers and activists, *China's Great Leap* illuminates China's recent history and outlines how domestic and international pressure in the context of the Olympics could achieve human rights change. When Beijing first sought the Games, China was still recovering from the upheavals of Maoist rule and adapting to a market revolution. Today China wants to engage with the outside world – while fully controlling the engagement. How will the new leaders in Beijing manage the Olympic process and the internal and external pressures for reform it creates?

Minky Worden is the media director of Human Rights Watch.



2009 World Report

The 564-page *World Report 2009* summarizes major human rights issues in more than 90 countries, reflecting the extensive investigative work carried out in 2008 by Human Rights Watch staff. The report documents ongoing human rights abuses by states and non-state armed groups across the globe, including attacks on civilians in conflicts in Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Georgia, Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Somalia, Sri Lanka, and Sudan, and political repression in countries such as Burma, China, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Saudi Arabia, Uzbekistan, and Zimbabwe. The introductory essay by Executive Director Kenneth Roth outlines steps the United States and other governments that purport to support human rights should take if they want to reclaim the initiative for human rights from the “spoiler” nations that today so aggressively and effectively oppose them.



Robin Kirk

More Terrible Than Death: Massacres, Drugs and America's War in Colombia

More Terrible Than Death is a gripping work that maps the dramatic relationship between the United States and Colombia in human terms, using portraits of the Colombians and Americans involved, the author's experiences in Colombia as a writer and human rights investigator and an insider's analysis of the political realities that shape the expanding war on drugs and the growing U.S. military presence there. Mapping the destructive effects of Colombia's drug war from the ground up, Kirk personalizes the devastation created by the violence among the paramilitaries, the guerrillas and the drug cartels.

Robin Kirk is a former Human Rights Watch senior researcher on Colombia.



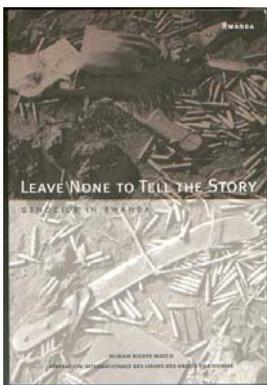
Jean-Paul Marthoz

La Liberté, Sinon Rien: Mes Amériques de Bastogne à Bagdad

Starting with his parents's memories of the December 1944 Battle of the Bulge in Bastogne and closing with Barack Obama's first victories in the 2008 primaries, the author covers 60 years of US history and blends in his own itinerary. Raised in a family that equated the US with the liberation of 1945 and the struggle for freedom, Marthoz puts to the test US exceptionalism and its proclaimed commitment to an ethical foreign policy. Freedom is the keyword of this 410-page essay, full of testimonies and readings, that looks at US engagement with the world. While recording without fear US complicities with Latin American dictators and Middle Eastern satraps, Marthoz celebrates the great contribution of US activists, intellectuals, journalists, politicians, to the cause of progressive politics and the inspiration they have provided to the rest of the world. Editions GRIP/Enjeux internationaux et locaux, Brussels

<http://www.grip.org>

Jean-Paul Marthoz is a journalist and academic who served as the European press director for Human Rights Watch from 1996-2005.



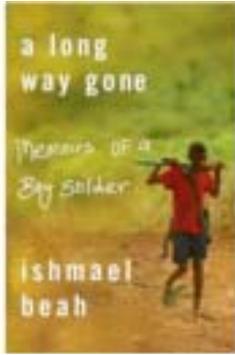
Alison DesForges

Leave None to Tell the Story

In 1994 a small elite chose genocide to keep power in Rwanda. They used state resources and authority to incite -- or force -- tens of thousands of Rwandans to kill the Tutsi minority. Within one hundred days, they slaughtered more than half a million people, three quarters of the Tutsi of Rwanda. The most extensive and authoritative account of the genocide yet published, written by Alison DesForges, Senior Advisor to the Africa Division of Human Rights Watch. Available in English, French, German and Kinyarwanda.

<http://www.hrw.org/reports/1999/rwanda/>

Non-Fiction

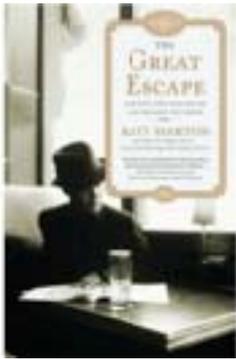


Ishmael Beah

A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier

This absorbing account by a young man who gets swept up in Sierra Leone's civil war goes beyond even the best journalistic efforts in revealing the life and mind of a child abducted into the horrors of warfare. At the age of twelve, he fled attacking rebels and wandered a land rendered unrecognizable by violence. By thirteen, he'd been picked up by the government army, and Beah, at heart a gentle boy, found that he was capable of truly terrible acts. At sixteen, he was removed from fighting by UNICEF, and through the help of the staff at his rehabilitation center, he learned how to forgive himself, to regain his humanity, and, finally, to heal. *A Long Way Gone* was named one of the 100 Notable Books of 2007 by the New York Times.

Ishmael Beah is a member of the Children's Rights Division Advisory Committee.

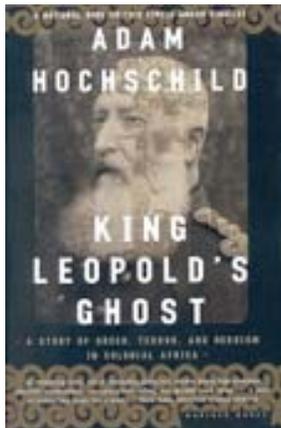


Kati Marton

The Great Escape: Nine Jews Who Fled Hitler and Changed the World

Cast out of the cafes of cosmopolitan Budapest by the war, each of the nine extraordinary and ambitious men portrayed in this account would become a household name by the end of the twentieth century: Manhattan Project physicists Leo Szilard, Edward Teller, and Eugene Wigner; computer inventor John von Neuman; writer Arthur Koestler (*Darkness at Noon*, 1940); filmmakers Alexander Korda (*The Third Man*) and Michael Curtiz (*Casablanca*); New York photographer Andre Kertesz; and D-Day photographer Robert Capa. Each has a fascinating trajectory, worthy of its own volume. Woven together, however, the lives of these nine Hungarian Jews constitute a unique and inspired testament to creative genius born of adversity. But Marton's narrative is also a perceptive study of the abiding and perhaps particularly Hungarian loneliness that haunts and propels each man.

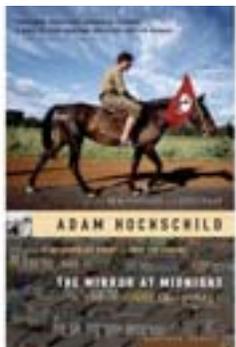
Kati Marton is a member of the Human Rights Watch Board of Directors.



Adam Hochschild

King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror and Heroism in Colonial Africa

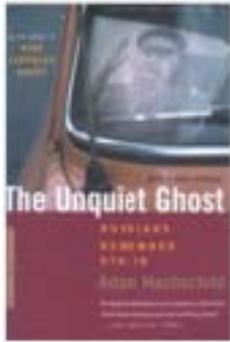
In the 1880s, as the European powers were carving up Africa, King Leopold II of Belgium seized for himself the vast and mostly unexplored territory surrounding the Congo River. Carrying out a genocidal plundering of the Congo, he looted its rubber, brutalized its people, and ultimately slashed its population by ten million--all the while shrewdly cultivating his reputation as a great humanitarian. Heroic efforts to expose these crimes eventually led to the first great human rights movement of the twentieth century, in which everyone from Mark Twain to the Archbishop of Canterbury participated. *King Leopold's Ghost* is the haunting account of a megalomaniac of monstrous proportions, and is also the deeply moving portrait of those who fought Leopold: a brave handful of missionaries, travelers, and young idealists who went to Africa for work or adventure and unexpectedly found themselves witnesses to a holocaust.



Adam Hochschild

The Mirror at Midnight: A South African Journey

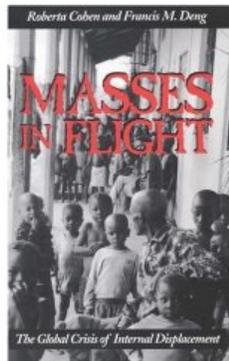
History lies heavily on South Africa, and in an original literary form -- half-history, half-reportage -- Adam Hochschild brings to bear a lifetime familiarity with the country. He looks at the tensions of modern-day South Africa through a dramatic prism: the pivotal nineteenth-century Battle of Blood River, which determined whether the Boers or the Zulus would control that part of the world and marked the beginning of white South Africans' sense of manifest destiny [and the root of their apartheid policies]. This incisive book is an unusual window onto a society that still today remains divided.



Adam Hochschild

The Unquiet Ghost: Russians Remember Stalin

In 1991, Hochschild made his way to dreadful places like Kolyma, the Auschwitz of the labor-camp system, but his real interest was in talking to people, both jailers and victims, who lived through the horrors. Nobody was exempt from an instant dispatch into hell, as his interview with Stalin's translator shows, but for some, those days weren't all bad. In the steppe town of Karaganda, Hochschild was entertained by a former camp commandant, who proudly showed pictures of himself speaking to an audience of convicts. He spoke with the daughter of a secret-police officer responsible for mass executions, a woman anguished by that knowledge but who, like millions at the time, figured the dead really were enemies of the people. Hochschild attempts to convey some answers, but ultimately his contribution is to seek out witnesses of Stalinism and preserve their ruthlessly realistic testimony.

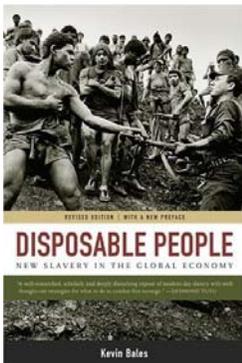


Roberta Cohen and Francis M. Deng

Masses in Flight: The Global Crisis of Internal Displacement

Since the end of the Cold War, increasing numbers of people have been forced to leave their homes as a result of armed conflict, internal strife, and systematic violations of human rights. Whereas refugees crossing national borders benefit from an established system of international protection and assistance, those who are displaced internally suffer from an absence of legal or institutional bases for their protection and assistance from the international community. This book analyzes the causes and consequences of displacement, including its devastating impact both within and beyond the borders of affected countries.

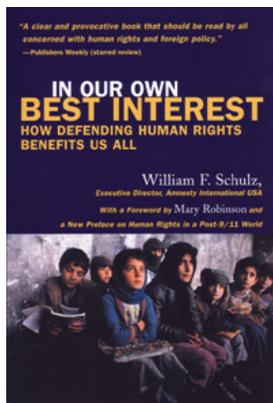
Roberta Cohen is a member of Human Rights Watch's Africa Advisory Committee.



Kevin Bales

Disposable People: New Slavery in the Global Economy

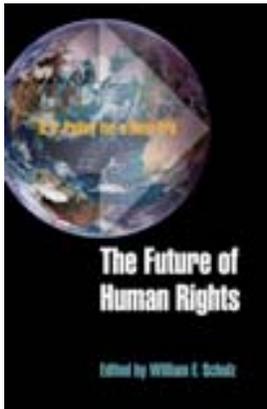
Slavery is illegal throughout the world, yet more than 27 million people are still trapped in one of history's oldest social institutions. Bales's disturbing story of contemporary slavery reaches from Pakistan's brick kilns and Thailand's brothels to various multinational corporations. His investigations reveal how the tragic emergence of a "new slavery" is inextricably linked to the global economy.



William F. Schulz

In Our Own Best Interest: How Defending Human Rights Benefits Us All

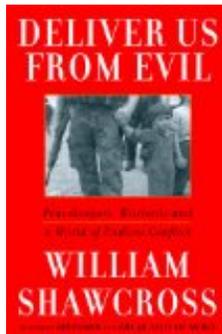
The Executive Director of Amnesty International USA offers a compelling series of arguments for placing inalienable human rights ahead of political, economic, or technological ends when American leaders — and followers — write their agendas for cultural dominance. Positing that access to health care, promotion of fair labor practices, and environmental concerns should inform policy makers working toward democratic primacy, Schulz describes specific human-rights issues and abuses as they are found in many areas of the globe where Americans have business interests. His writing style is casual and often refers to discussions he has had with high school classes in the U.S., making this a highly accessible text for both student researchers and budding political philosophers.



William F. Schulz, Ed.

The Future of Human Rights: U.S. Policy for a New Era

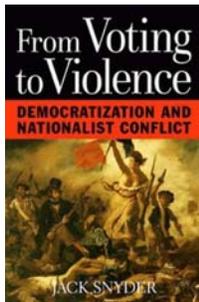
The thirteen essays in this volume, by such notable scholars and activists as Philip Alston, Rachel Kleinfeld, George Lopez, John Shattuck, and Debora Spar, provide thematic assessments of the current state of global human rights programs as well as prescriptions for once again making the United States a respected and forceful proponent of human rights. Topics include democracy promotion, women's rights, refugee policy, religious freedom, labor standards, and economic, social, and cultural rights, among many others. Taken together, the essays converge on one overarching point: to attract the widest support, the U.S. commitment to universal human rights should be presented as reflecting the best of the American tradition. Human Rights Watch Refugee Policy Director Bill Frelick and Business & Human Rights Senior Researcher Carol Pier are also contributors to the book.



William Shawcross,

Deliver Us From Evil: Peacekeepers, Warlords and a World of Endless Conflict

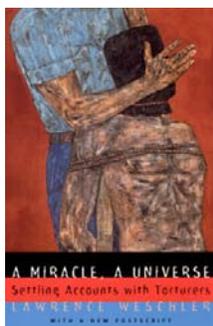
The end of the Cold War may have reduced the threat of nuclear catastrophe, but shooting wars continued to ravage the planet throughout the '90s. Shawcross, an award-winning journalist, takes inventory of a decade's worth of conflict, ranging from Cambodia to Rwanda, Croatia to East Timor, and assesses the reactions of governments, the U.N., and humanitarian agencies to the carnage. The book proceeds chronologically, treating several crises in each chapter.



Jack Snyder

From Voting to Violence: Democratization and Nationalist Conflict

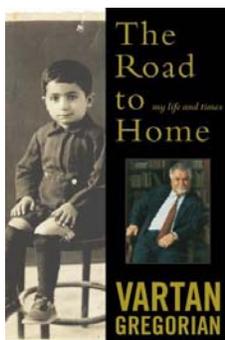
In this acutely argued book, Columbia University political scientist Snyder challenges the American dogma that voting is a political panacea regardless of conditions or circumstances. Critically assessing American foreign policy in the 1990s, he argues that promoting free elections often produces serious conflict.



Lawrence Weschler

A Miracle, a Universe: Settling Accounts with Torturers

A Miracle, A Universe brings together two long nonfiction pieces, originally published in the New Yorker, which examine how citizens of Brazil and Uruguay have worked to “settle accounts” with their former torturers. Weschler uses historical background to supplement his powerful eyewitness reportage and interviews, bearing witness to those who seek to break through official denials of government atrocity. The efforts to build a democratic society in which people can have faith have rarely been portrayed with as much immediacy and insight as Weschler brings to these articles.

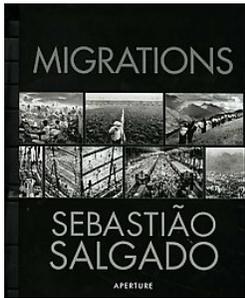


Vartan Gregorian

The Road to Home: My Life and Times

In this rags-to-riches memoir, Gregorian explains how he went from a childhood in a poor section of Tabriz, Iran, to become president of the New York Public Library and, later, the president of Brown University. Now the president of the Carnegie Corporation, Gregorian did travel the time-worn, conventional path of hard work and sheer grit, but he also had the dedicated help of friends and the fortuitous aid of strangers. A polyglot, “intoxicated with reading” and steeped in the Middle East’s intricate, tangled saga, Gregorian opens a doorway to history and to Persian and Armenian literature.

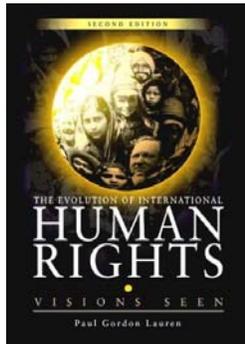
Vartan Gregorian is member of the Human Rights Watch board of directors.



Sebastião Salgado

Migrations : Humanity in Transition

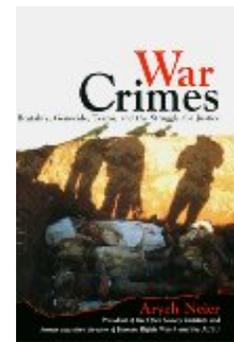
Sebastião Salgado, whose previous book *Workers* changed forever the image of manual labor around the world, has now turned his attention to the staggering phenomenon of mass migration. In photographs taken over seven years and across more than thirty-five countries, *Migrations* documents the epic displacement of the world's people at the close of the twentieth century and follows Latin Americans entering the United States, Jews leaving the former Soviet Union, Africans traveling into Europe, Kosovars fleeing into Albania, and many other displaced and migrant populations.



Paul Gordon Lauren

The Evolution of International Human Rights

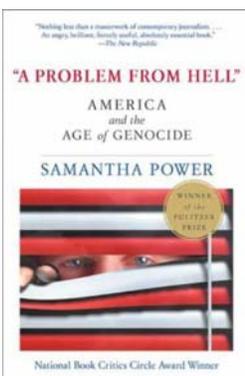
Using the theme of visions seen by those who dreamed of what might be, Lauren explores the dramatic transformation of a world patterned by centuries of traditional structures of authority, gender abuse, racial prejudice, class divisions and slavery, colonial empires, and claims of national sovereignty into a global community that now boldly proclaims that the way governments treat their own people is a matter of international concern - and sets the goal of human rights for all people of all nations.



Aryeh Neier

War Crimes: Brutality, Genocide, Terror, and the Struggle for Justice

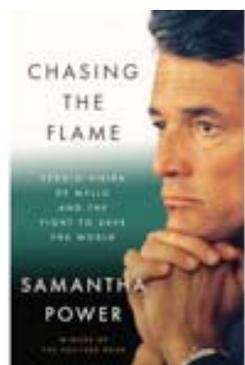
Human rights activist Neier has created a work that is both a comprehensive history and a forward-looking treatise on the institution of war tribunals. Shedding an especially penetrating light on the genocidal actions that took place in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia, *War Crimes* catalogs and addresses the many issues surrounding the prosecution of war crimes, including accusations of “victor’s justice,” international jurisprudence, and the accountability of lower-ranking officers.



Samantha Power

A Problem from Hell: America and the Age of Genocide

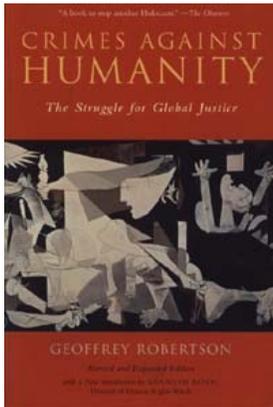
Power, a former journalist for U.S. News & World Report and the Economist and now the executive director of Harvard’s Carr Center for Human Rights, offers an uncompromising and disturbing examination of 20th-century acts of genocide and U.S. responses to them. In clean, unadorned prose, Power revisits the Turkish genocide directed at Armenians in 1915-1916, the Holocaust, Cambodia’s Khmer Rouge, Iraqi attacks on Kurdish populations, Rwanda, and Bosnian “ethnic cleansing”, and in doing so, argues that U.S. intervention has been shamefully inadequate.



Samantha Power

Chasing the Flame: Sergio Vieira de Mello and the Fight to Save the World

The death of the charismatic Brazilian chief of the U.N. Mission to Iraq in a 2003 terrorist bombing symbolized both the U.N.'s haplessness—he died because rescuers lacked the training and equipment to free him from the rubble—and its idealism. In this sprawling biography, Vieira de Mello's life symbolizes the tragic contradictions of coping with humanitarian crises. Power follows Vieira de Mello through a U.N. career spent in hot spots like Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Kosovo. Vieira de Mello comes off as a charming diplomat, a canny politician and an inspiring leader, and the author celebrates his flexibility and pragmatism (while criticizing his failures).

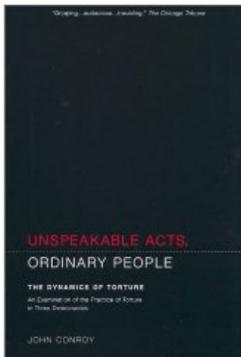


Geoffrey Robertson

Crimes against Humanity: The Struggle for Global Justice

A British lawyer long involved in human rights observations and tribunals, Robertson writes of the history and the contemporary politics of international human rights. He devotes a chapter each to the history of human rights law; the case of General Pinochet; the “Guernica Paradox” (that is, bombing in the service of human rights); the International Court; and recent events in the Balkans, East Timor, Latin America and the U.S. An unabashed supporter of international military intervention, Robertson puts individuals’ rights above the right of national sovereignty. Passionate almost to a fault, he occasionally even argues that morality and the defense of human rights should supersede the rule of international law.

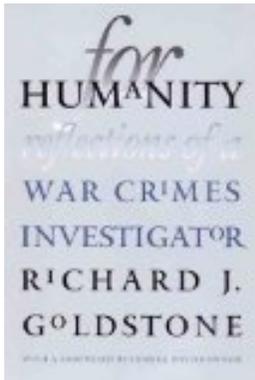
Geoffrey Robertson represented Human Rights Watch in the proceedings against former Chilean dictator Gen. Augusto Pinochet.



John Conroy

Unspeakable Acts, Ordinary People: The Dynamics of Torture

Unspeakable Acts, Ordinary People is a riveting book that exposes the potential in each of us for acting in unspeakable ways. Conroy sits down with torturers from several nations and comes to understand their motivations. His compelling narrative has the tension of a novel. He takes us into a Chicago police station, two villages in the West Bank, and a secret British interrogation center in Northern Ireland. In the process, we are exposed to the experience of the victim, the rationalizations of the torturer, and the seeming indifference of the bystander.

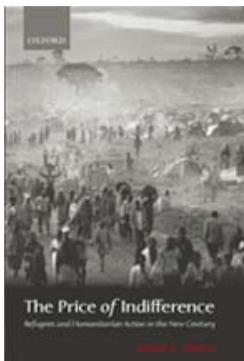


Richard J. Goldstone

For Humanity: Reflections of a War Crimes Investigator

Throughout his career, the distinguished South African jurist Goldstone has been deeply committed to promoting human rights in his own country and abroad. A justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa since 1994, he also served as chairperson of the Commission of Inquiry Regarding the Prevention of Public Violence and Intimidation in South Africa and chief prosecutor of the United Nations International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda. In this engrossing and inspiring book, Justice Goldstone provides an intimate account of his progression from a young activist opposing South Africa’s racial policies to the world’s first independent war crimes prosecutor.

Richard J. Goldstone is member of the board of directors of Human Rights Watch.

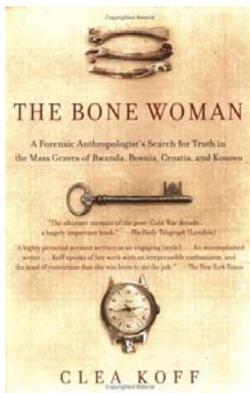


Arthur C. Helton

The Price of Indifference: Refugees and Humanitarian Action in the New Century

Refugee policy has not kept pace with new realities in international and humanitarian affairs. Recent policy failures have resulted in instability, terrible hardships, and massive loss of life. Helton’s book systematically analyzes refugee policy responses over the past decade and calls for specific reforms to make policy more proactive and comprehensive.

Arthur C. Helton was killed in the August 2003 bombing of the U.N. headquarters in Baghdad. He dedicated his life to refugees’ rights and served as a former member of the advisory committee of Human Rights Watch’s Africa Division.

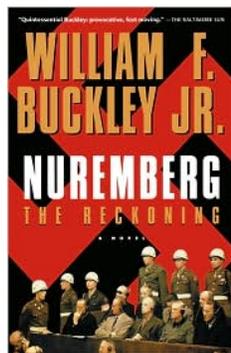


Clea Koff

The Bone Woman

In the spring of 1994, Rwanda was the scene of the first acts since World War II to be legally defined as genocide. Two years later, Koff, a 23-year-old forensic anthropologist analyzing prehistoric skeletons in Berkeley, California, was one of sixteen scientists chosen by the U.N. International Criminal Tribunal to go to Rwanda to unearth the physical evidence of genocide and crimes against humanity. *The Bone Woman* is Koff's riveting, intimate account of that mission and six subsequent missions she undertook to Bosnia, Croatia and Kosovo on behalf of the U.N. It is, ultimately, a story filled with hope, humanity, and justice.

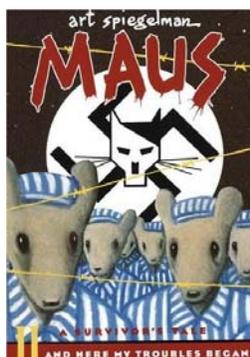
Fiction



William F. Buckley, Jr.,

Nuremberg: The Reckoning

Nuremberg: The Reckoning, Buckley Jr.'s gripping historical novel about the 1945 International Military Tribunal that brought Nazi war criminals to justice, is driven by an illuminating synergy of fact and fiction. While drawing upon the record of furious, real-life events at Nuremberg and writing with mesmerizing authority about such participants as Herman Goering, Albert Speer, and Justice Robert Jackson (the United States' Chief Prosecutor at the Tribunal), Buckley provides readers a helpful, unifying entrée with his invention of the Reinhard family.



Art Spiegelman

Maus: A Survivor's Tale

A contributing editor and artist for the *New Yorker*, Art Spiegelman won the Pulitzer Prize for *Maus*, a graphic novel in two parts portraying a true story of the Holocaust in comic form. It is the story of Vladek Spiegelman, a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe, and his son, a cartoonist coming to terms with his father's story. The Nazis, portrayed as cats, gradually introduce increasingly repressive measures, until the Jews, drawn as mice, are systematically hunted and herded toward the Final Solution. Vladek's harrowing story of survival is woven into the author's account of his tortured relationship with his aging father.