

Editorial

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Welcome to the second issue of *JPR: The Journal of Perpetrator Research*. We are pleased to be able to present four research articles that showcase the interdisciplinary and transnational scope of the field of perpetrator studies. The first two focus on the Cambodian genocide and its aftermath. In his contribution, Timothy Williams explores the scope for action available to Khmer Rouge perpetrators and discusses how these perpetrators (re)present their acts and agency in retrospect. These self-representations, Williams argues, have significant implications for how they perceive their own culpability and responsibility, as well as for how scholars in perpetrator studies understand the dynamics of mass violence both during and after the fact. Self-representation is also a central concern in Vicente Sánchez-Biosca's article on Rithy Panh's 2011 film *Duch, Master of the Forges of Hell*. Through a careful analysis of the cinematic devices, such as editing, sound effects, and montage, employed by Panh, Sánchez-Biosca demonstrates how the film subverts and challenges Duch's self-stylization, placing his words, gestures, and affect in a critical frame. Michelle E. Anderson's article revolves around the South African television programme *Truth Commission Special Report*. Anderson brings concepts such as perpetrator trauma, empathic unsettlement, and the uncanny to bear on the broadcast and shows to what extent TCSR confirmed and/or challenged stereotypical images of Apartheid-era perpetrators. Finally, Piotr Oseka takes us to post-1989 Poland and the settling of scores with the Communist Secret Police. Oseka identifies three dominant strategies in post-Communist memory politics in Poland: neutralization, retribution, and zombification, whereby the politics of the past return to feed on the politics of the present. The issue also features reviews of recent publications as well as a conference report.

A special feature of this issue is an interdisciplinary 'Roundtable' on the question of perpetrators and perpetration. In response to the inaugural issue of the *Journal of Perpetrator Research*, and in particular our 'Editors' Introduction', we received an essay from Christian Gudehus, the editor-in-chief of *Genocide Studies and Prevention*, in which he raised a number of important points regarding the terminology, heuristics, focus, and ambit of JPR and of perpetrator studies in general. We welcomed this intervention and decided to take it as a starting point for an ongoing conversation about theoretical and methodological questions pertaining to the study of perpetrators and perpetration. For this Roundtable, we have invited a number of scholars from different disciplines to engage with our Editorial and the points raised by Gudehus. The Roundtable features Gudehus's response, followed by position papers by Ernesto Verdeja, Marcia Esparza, Raya Morag, Christophe Busch, and the editors. We hope that these kinds of cross-disciplinary conversations will become a regular feature of our journal.

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