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Book Review: Talking Conflict: The Loaded Language of Genocide, Political Violence, Terrorism, and Warfare

Jennifer A. Bartlett

Abstract

The language used to describe conflict situations, whether military, political, or personal, has the potential to help resolve or escalate. Terms such as "collateral damage," "ethnic cleansing," and "final solution" often refer to historical events, but can also be used to condemn or endorse particular points of view in political speeches, the media, and local debate. Euphemisms, oxymorons, propaganda, jargon: all come into play. The nuanced and powerful rhetoric of conflict is the topic of *Talking Conflict*, an interesting and wide-ranging encyclopedia discussing the impact of linguistics, political science, journalism, and other fields on the language of conflict.

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The 1994 Rwandan genocide represents one of the most tragic episodes of political violence in recent history. Estimates suggest that in just 100 days, conflict between the Hutu majority and Tutsi minority resulted in the killing of between 500,000 and 1 million citizens. In response to the genocide, the United Nations created a criminal tribunal for Rwanda, and 77,000 people have been

prosecuted for being members or accomplices of armed militias that carried out attacks and 433,000 for engaging in localized violence. Learning Loaded language used in politics. A Dictionary of the Loaded Language of Political Violence. Philip herbst. Greenwood pressp. Talking Terrorism. Talking Terrorism A Dictionary of the Loaded Language of Political Violence. TERRORISM AS POLITICAL VIOLENCE This book is not just about terrorism, though that is its overarching theme. Found in nearly unclassifiable variety, terrorism cannot be separated from other forms of political violence. From the guerrilla to an established military, from rebels to revolutionaries, virtually all forms of political violence have involved or been called terrorism at one time or another. Terrorism, a word of protean meanings, is not defined in this dictionary, though others definitions are examined. Talking Conflict: The Loaded Language of Genocide, Political Violence, Terrorism, and Warfare by WittmannAnna M. Talking Conflict: The Loaded Language of Genocide, Political Violence, Terrorism, and Warfare by WittmannAnna M. (pp. 100-101). Review by: Joshua Sinai. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26453153>. Note: Always review your references and make any necessary corrections before using. Pay attention to names, capitalization, and dates. × Close Overlay.