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Refugee law in crisis: decolonizing the architecture of violence

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Abstract

Book synopsis: In an era of mass mobility, those who are permitted to migrate and those who are criminalized, controlled, and prohibited from migrating are heavily patterned by race. By placing race at the centre of its analysis, this volume brings together fourteen chapters that examine, question, and explain the growing intersection between criminal justice and migration control. Through the lens of race, we see how criminal justice and migration enmesh in order to exclude, stop, and excise racialized citizens and non-citizens from societies across the world within, beyond, and along borders. Neatly organized in four parts, the book begins with chapters that present a conceptual analysis of race, borders, and social control, moving to the institutions that make up and shape the criminal justice and migration complex. The remaining chapters are convened around the key sites where criminal justice and migration control intersect: policing, courts, and punishment. Together the volume presents a critical and timely analysis of how race shapes and complicates mobility and how racism is enabled and reanimated when criminal justice and migration control coalesce. Race and the meaning of race in relation to citizenship and belonging is excavated throughout the chapters presented in the book, thereby transforming the way we think about migration.

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Its meaning varies through the flow of time, as it can be used in a context of law, in a religious context (Judgement Day in Greek language is phrased as Day of Crisis), in the medical sciences, with the meaning of the more dangerous point of an illness. But of course its also used as a historical change benchmark, with a positive or a negative outcome. Europe is already suffering under the weight of an economic crisis and the refugee crisis comes to sum up, with not a visible solution to exist for neither of them. Is that creating a new point of view, in which crisis is the new normality? Violence. A feared word. 'European refugee crisis' – why use scare quotes? The phrase 'European refugee crisis' became widely used in April 2015, when 5 boats carrying almost 2,000 people sank in the Mediterranean Sea, with an estimated combined death toll of 1,222 people. These shipwrecks occurred as the number of refugees and other migrants arriving on European shores increased over the course of 2015 to decline again in November of that year. The phrase 'refugee crisis', however, does more than give words to an out-of-the-ordinary situation. By positioning some forms of instability, violence and suffering outside of its frame of reference, the refugee crisis language and imagery evoke an innocent European Self that is distinguishable from a dangerous third-world-looking Other. Refugee crisis can refer to difficulties and dangerous situations in the reception of large groups of forcibly displaced persons. These could be either internally displaced, refugees, asylum seekers or any other huge groups of migrants. A crisis could occur within the country, while attempting to leave, or while on the move to a safe country, or even after arrival in a country of asylum. A situation can be called a crisis, either from the perspective of the forcibly displaced persons, or from the The world is witnessing the largest refugee crisis since the horrors of World War II. There are close to 60 million war refugees, according to the UN High... Today there are close to 60 million war refugees, according to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)—“an all-time high as violence and persecution” around the world are on the rise. CREDIT: UNHCR. The Middle East, North Africa, and Western Asia are particularly hard hit. Millions of refugees from Syria, Iraq, Libya, Afghanistan, and Yemen are fleeing violence and war in their countries. In all of 2014, approximately 219,000 people tried to cross the Mediterranean to seek asylum in Europe. In just the first eight months of 2015, over 300,000 refugees tried to cross the sea, according to There are now nearly 80 million refugees and displaced people around the world. The International Rescue Committee is providing relief to millions in war zones and other countries in crisis; in Europe, where refugees continue to seek safety; and in our 26 resettlement offices in the United States. There are now nearly 80 million refugees and displaced people around the world. The International Rescue Committee is providing relief to millions in war zones and other countries in crisis; in Europe, where refugees continue to seek safety; and in our 26 resettlement offices in the United States. United Nations: There are now nearly 80 million displaced people around the world.