



The Idea of Violence



edited by
James A. Tyner

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What constitutes violence? Such a deceptively simple question belies a much longer and contested history over the idea, meaning, and actualization of violence. Our initial supposition is that violence is an abstraction, a constantly changing 'idea' that impacts the ways in which it manifests itself and how people and societies relate to it. Violence thus becomes an intrinsic factor - negative, positive, ritual, institutional, revolutionary - of sociological processes and as such its practices and interpretations affect and are affected by culture. The contributions in this volume address directly the philosophic foundations of violence within different historical and geographical contexts. Individually and collectively, contributors investigate how varied contexts generate specific concepts of violence and, concurrently, how different philosophies and ideologies shape the expression, perception, and representation of violence.

Contributors: Samuel Cohn, Jr, Laura Fenelli, Jim Glassman, Fabrizio Ricciardelli, Estela Schindel, James A. Tyner, Pierluigi Valsecchi.

James A. Tyner is Professor of Geography at Kent State University and a Fellow of the American Association of Geographers. His research interests include political geography, political economy, and war, violence, and genocide. His latest books include *The Nature of Revolution: Art and Politics under the Khmer Rouge* (University of Georgia, 2018); *The Politics of Lists: Bureaucracy and Genocide under the Khmer Rouge* (West Virginia University Press, 2018); and *Dead Labor: Toward a Political Economy of Premature Death* (University of Minnesota Press, 2019).

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Contributors