VISUALISING HUMAN RIGHTS

Edited by Jane Lydon
RRP $34.99

This book explores ideas of humanity, citizenship, atrocity and justice through the visual.

It is 70 years since the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in Paris. At that time, photography was considered a ‘universal language’ that would communicate across barriers of race and language.

Seventy years on, Visualising Human Rights looks at the ways that visual images have been used to define, contest, or argue on behalf of human rights. This book explores questions surrounding the historical reception of human rights via imagery and its legacies in the present.

Contributors are Fay Anderson; Brenda L. Croft; Vera Mackie; Suvendrini Perera and Joseph Pugliese; Susie Protschky; Sharon Sliwinski; and Mary Tomsic.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

Professor Jane Lydon is the Wesfarmers Chair of Australian History at The University of Western Australia. She is interested in the ways that popular and especially visual culture have shaped ideas and debates about race, identity and culture that persist today. In particular, Jane is concerned with the history of Australia’s engagement with anti-slavery, humanitarianism, and ultimately human rights. Her recent books include The Flash of Recognition: Photography and the emergence of Indigenous rights, which won the 2013 Queensland Literary Awards’ USQ History Book Award, and Photography, Humanitarianism, Empire.

Cover image credit: Brenda L. Croft, ‘shut/mouth/scream’, (detail from diptych), 2016, from the series ‘blood/type’.

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