

## A new look at the abusers and the victims

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**Miriam Gebhardt** is a historian and journalist and teaches history at the University of Konstanz. She was awarded a PhD for her study *Fear of the Juvenile Tyrant: A History of Upbringing in the 20th Century* (2009). DVA published her books *Rudolf Steiner: A Modern Prophet* (2011) and *Alice in No-Man's Land: How the German Women's Movement Lost the Women* (2012). Her bestseller *Crimes Unspoken* (2015) has been translated into several languages.



Professor Dr. Miriam Gebhardt

### **Crimes Unspoken**

[Als die Soldaten kamen]

The rape of German women at the end of World War II

Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt

352 pages

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The soldiers who defeated the Nazi regime at the end of World War II also brought new suffering to many women. Countless girls and women (and no few men as well) became the victims of sexual violence – all over the country. In contrast to a widely held belief, it was not just "the Russians" who were the offenders, but also American, French and British soldiers.

Using new source material, Miriam Gebhardt has outlined the extent of the violence during the period of occupation at the end of the war – the first historically founded treatment of this topic. She also impressively describes how these women later again became victims – of doctors who arbitrarily agreed to or turned down abortion; of social workers who put pregnant women into homes. And last but not least of a society that right down to the present day would prefer not to talk about the mass crimes, that would rather just forget about the whole business.

### **Press**

"A harrowing and highly recommended work of scholarship."  
*Times Higher Education*

"[...] an important, meticulously researched book." *ARD*

"[...] a profound analysis of what happened around 1945 - events casting their shadow right down to the present day."  
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