PALGRAVE STUDIES IN THE HISTORY OF EMOTIONS

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'Wide-ranging but tightly focused, this brilliant volume shows us the innovative analytical possibilities afforded by a sophisticated approach that critically blends the history of emotions, the history of the senses and the history of experience with new ways of handling visual and material sources.'

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This collection of essays explores the emotional agency of images in the construction of 'humanitarian crises' from the nineteenth century to the present. In this book, authors from a wide range of disciplines examine the pivotal role images play in shaping cultural, social and political reactions to the suffering of others and to the establishment of international networks of solidarity. Questioning certain emotions assumed to underlie humanitarianism such as sympathy, empathy and compassion, this book demonstrates how the experience of such emotions has shifted over time. Understanding images as emotional objects, it examines how their production, circulation and reception has been crucial to the perception of humanitarian crises in a long-term historical perspective.

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Making Humanitarian Crises

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