

# Hitler's *Volksgemeinschaft* and the Dynamics of Racial Exclusion

VIOLENCE AGAINST JEWS IN PROVINCIAL GERMANY, 1919—1939

Michael Wildt

Translated by Bernard Heise

*Wildt offers a deep impression of what it actually meant for Jews to live in a society defined as a Volksgemeinschaft at least by its leaders... [His] book offers readable and detailed insight into what it meant to produce Volksgemeinschaft. It is by now a standard work on the early years of National Socialist anti-Semitism and supplies an inspiring view on the transformation of German society between the years 1919 and 1939.*

H-Net

*[This book] convincingly blends larger conceptual claims with detailed historical analysis of specific localities. One cannot walk away from the book still thinking that the German population in Hitler's Germany was oblivious to, or unwilling to endorse, years of violently exclusionary mechanisms set in motion against Jews—the prelude to their eventual extermination.*

Holocaust and Genocide Studies

*[Wildt's] interpretation contests some of the established assessments. Even though the role of the Volksgemeinschaft in this process is debatable, the concept inspired a study worth reading...[It] is definitely a thought-provoking book.*

Journal of Contemporary European Studies

*This is a nuanced, provocative, and important book.*

American Historical Reviews

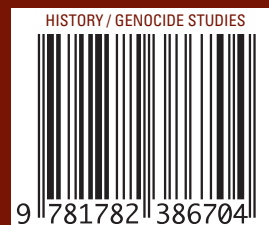
*For a relatively compact work... the thick, compelling narratives and insightful historiographic remarks make this an unusually engaging book, one that is certain to enlighten seasoned scholars as well as those embarking on a serious study of the Third Reich.*

The Journal of Modern History

**MICHAEL WILDT** studied history, cultural studies, and theology at the University of Hamburg. From 1993 to 2009, he was a Research Fellow at the Research Centre for Contemporary History in Hamburg, the Hamburg Institute for Social Research, and The International Institute for Holocaust Research, Yad Vashem, Jerusalem. He is Professor of Modern German History at Humboldt University in Berlin.

*Cover photo: A man is being driven through the streets by the Sturm Abteilung, he carries in his hands a large sign that reads: "I have defiled a Christian girl!" Universitätsstadt Marburg, Stabsstelle Presse- und Öffentlichkeitsarbeit, Markt 8, 35035 Marburg.*

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