



Italian Psychology and Jewish Emigration under Fascism

From Florence to Jerusalem and New York

Patrizia Guarnieri

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Patrizia Guarnieri is Professor of Cultural and Social History in the S.A.G.A.S. Department at the University of Florence, Italy. She has been a lecturer in Overseas Studies of Stanford University, USA and taught courses approved by the Psychology Department and the History of Science Program. She is the author of numerous publications, including *A Case of Child Murder: Law and Science in Nineteenth-Century Tuscany*, which has been translated into English.

'Patrizia Guarnieri is probably the leading Italian social historian. In this book she traces the fate of the persecuted Jewish psychologists in Italy during the Holocaust, victims in part of the racist ideology of the Fascist regime, in part of the stupefying indifference - even after the War! - of their non-Jewish colleagues. Guarnieri recreates brilliantly not just to the world of these brave psychologists, but of the entire Italian intellectual culture of the day.'
-Edward Shorter, Professor of the History of Medicine and Professor of Psychiatry, University of Toronto, Canada

Italian and Italian American Studies

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'This is a remarkable and highly original study. It goes far beyond the academic world of psychology in Italy and the impact of the anti-Jewish racial laws of fascism.'
-Stuart Woolf, Professor Emeritus of History, University of Venice, Italy and translator of Primo Levi, *If This Is a Man*

'Patrizia Guarnieri takes her readers on an amazing journey little known to most psychologists or scholars. Her meticulous research into the era of Italian fascism and its impact on the immigration of Jews enlightens a dark chapter in our history with brilliant narratives of heroes and villains, and the roles played by influential Italian psychologists.'
-Philip Zimbardo, Professor Emeritus of Psychology, Stanford University, USA

About the book

Fascism and the racial laws of 1938 dramatically changed the scientific research and the academic community. Guarnieri focuses on psychology, from its promising origins to the end of the WWII. Psychology was marginalized in Italy both by the neo-idealistic reaction against science, and fascism (unlike Nazism) with long-lasting consequences. Academics and young scholars were persecuted because they were antifascist or Jews and the story of Italian displaced scholars is still an embarrassing one. The book follows scholars who emigrated to the United States, such as psychologist Renata Calabresi, and to Palestine, such as Enzo Bonaventura. Guarnieri traces their journey and the help they received from antifascist and Zionist networks and by international organizations. Some succeeded, some did not, and very few went back.

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