

Some Recommended Books⁵

Brecher, Jeremy, Jill Cutler and Brendan Smith, eds. *In the Name of Democracy: American War Crimes in Iraq and Beyond*. Metropolitan Books (October 13, 2005). ISBN 0805079696.

(Anthology including interviews, FBI documents, legal briefs, and statements by soldiers turned resisters, re the war crimes committed by the U.S., in starting, and in conducting the war in Iraq.)

Carlson, Eric S. *The Pear Tree: Is Torture Ever Justified?* Clarity Press (February 28, 2006). ISBN: 0932863450. (International human rights advocate, who worked on genocide in former Yugoslavia and on the Argentine disappeared, writes a highly readable and deeply personal examination of this question.)

Danner, Mark. *Torture and Truth: America, Abu Ghraib, and the War on Terror*. DEL-New York Review Books (October 28, 2004). ISBN: 1590171527. (580-page book presents a documentary history of the Abu Ghraib prisoner-torture scandal. The paper trail includes policy statements concerning prisoner treatment signed by Attorney General Ashcroft and President Bush, reports on prisoner mistreatment generated within the United States armed forces themselves and material (including photographs) from outside agencies.)

Gill, Lesley. *The School of the Americas: Military Training and Political Violence in the Americas (American Encounters/Global Interactions)*. Duke University Press (October 30, 2004). ISBN: 0822333929. (American University anthropologist visited inside School of the Americas and reports on the folkways and rhetoric of the school and traces the careers of some of the 60,000 graduates of the school, tying them directly to the torture and death of "Latin American peasants, workers, students [and] human rights activists"—i.e., "opposition.")

Greenberg, Karen J., ed. *The Torture Debate in America*. Cambridge University Press (November 28, 2005). ISBN: 0521674611. (Captures the arguments on torture advanced by legislators, human rights activists, and others. It raises the key moral, legal, and historical questions that have led to current considerations on the use of torture. Divided into three sections, the contributions cover all sides of the debate, from absolute prohibition of torture to its use as a viable option in the War on Terror.)

Greenberg, Karen J. and Dratel, Joshua L., eds. *The Torture Papers: The Road to Abu Ghraib*. Cambridge University Press (January 26, 2005). ISBN: 0521853249. (Documents the so-called 'torture memos' and reports which US government officials wrote to prepare the way for, and to document, coercive interrogation and torture in Afghanistan, Guantanamo, and Abu Ghraib.)

Harbury, Jennifer K. *Truth, Torture, and the American Way : The History and Consequences of U.S. Involvement in Torture*. Beacon Press (September 15, 2005). ISBN: 0807003077. (Offers well-documented evidence of the CIA's continuous involvement in torture tactics since the 1970s, moving personal testimony from many victims, and provides solid, convincing arguments against the use of torture in any circumstances.)

⁵ A limited supply of these titles is available at the Conference Bookstore made possible by Pendle Hill. If we run out of a title, you may order the book through Pendle Hill at 800-742-3150, extension 2, or online at <http://www.pendlehill.org>.

Harbury, Jennifer K. *Searching for Everardo: A Story of Love, War, and the CIA in Guatemala*. Diane Pub Co (December 1997). ISBN 0446520365. (Account of Harbury's persistent search for her husband, a Mayan leader in Guatemala, who was tortured and killed in 1992 by members of the Guatemalan army, and struggles with both the Guatemalan and US governments to find out truth that paid CIA informants were involved.)

Hersh, Seymour M. *Chain of Command : The Road from 9/11 to Abu Ghraib*. HarperCollins (September 1, 2004). ISBN: 0060195916. (Book from keen investigative reporter for the *New Yorker* reveals that conditions suffered by "enemy combatants" at Guantánamo presaged detainee abuses at Abu Ghraib and that not only Rumsfeld, but the President and Vice President were in on it.)

Levinson, Sanford. *Torture: A Collection*. Oxford University Press USA (October 28, 2004). ISBN: 0195172892. (Brings together leading lawyers, political theorists, social scientists, and public intellectuals to debate the advisability of maintaining the absolute ban on torture and to reflect on what it says about our societies if we do--or do not--adhere to it in all circumstances.)

McCoy, Alfred. *A Question of Torture : CIA Interrogation, from the Cold War to the War on Terror*. Metropolitan Books (January 10, 2006). ISBN: 0805080414. (McCoy skillfully traces the use of interrogation methods from the Phoenix program in Vietnam—which was designed to ferret out high-level Vietcong, although of the more than twenty thousand people it killed most were civilians—to the actions of agency-trained secret police in Honduras in the nineteen-eighties, and the treatment of hooded detainees at Abu Ghraib.)

Nelson-Pallmeyer, Jack. *School of Assassins: Guns, Greed, and Globalization*. Orbis Books (November 2001). ISBN: 1570753857. (Exposé of the School of the Americas and its successor and their shifting roles as U.S. foreign policy tools have changed with growing corporate globalization.)

Ratner, Michael, and Ellen Ray. *Guantanamo: What the World Should Know*. Chelsea Green Publishing Company (June 30, 2004). ISBN: 1931498644. (Ratner, president of and civil rights attorney with the Center for Constitutional Rights representing several Guantanamo detainees, details conditions at Guantanamo.)

Risen, James. *State of War: The Secret History of the C.I.A. and the Bush Administration*. Free Press (January 3, 2006). ISBN: 0743270665. (The book's disclosures about secret prisons, "renditions"-the transfer of suspects to countries which may torture them-and domestic wiretaps are likely to be talking points for some time, but its lasting value will be as a record of how the CIA came so tantalizingly close to the truth about Iraq's nonexistent nuclear arsenal.)

Some Helpful Websites

This list does not purport to be comprehensive, and your web browsing will undoubtedly turn up others. Information contained below was taken from the websites listed within the two weeks preceding the conference. However, websites do change.

► Act Against Torture

Act Against Torture is a coalition of activists based in the San Francisco Bay Area working to abolish torture and indefinite detention, to end U.S. intervention in Iraq and Afghanistan, and to prevent future wars. Their website has downloadable fact sheets, posters, postcards, etc. that can be used in an educational and consciousness-raising campaign. See <http://actagainsttorture.org/materials.html>.

► Advocates for Survivors of Torture and Trauma (ASTT)

The mission of ASTT is to alleviate the suffering of those who have experienced the trauma of torture, to educate the local, national, and world community about the needs of torture survivors, and to advocate on their behalf. Based in Baltimore, Maryland, it operates a satellite office in the Washington, D.C. suburb of Wheaton. Its work includes specialized mental health services and social services for survivors of torture and war trauma. The website also includes useful resources on torture, its consequences, and the needs of survivors, as well as links to other organizations active in this field. <http://www.astt.org/index.html>. Among other resources, a very useful article on “Understanding Torture and Its Effects” can be found at <http://www.astt.org/torture.html>. Among other useful links provided on its Links page (<http://www.astt.org/links.html>), are links to other North American treatment centers for survivors of torture and trauma.

Friend and speaker Karen Hanscom is executive director of ASTT.

► American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

“The ACLU is our nation's guardian of liberty. We work daily in courts, legislatures and communities to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties guaranteed to every person in this country by the Constitution and laws of the United States. Our job is to conserve America's original civic values: the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.”

The ACLU has been active in many ways in seeking the protection of constitutional guarantees in the post-9/11 United States, including opposing features of the USAPATRIOT Act, successfully suing the government under the Freedom of Information Act to obtain release of records essential to letting the public know of detainee torture and abuse, advocating the closure of Guantánamo and providing fair and judicially reviewable trials of those detained there as enemy combatants.