Record Nr. UNINA9910255275003321
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Titolo Media and Crime in Argentina : Punitive Discourse During the 1990s / /

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Pubbl/distr/stampa London:,: Palgrave Macmillan UK:,: Imprint: Palgrave Macmillan,,

2017

ISBN 1-349-95251-6

Edizione [1st ed. 2017.]

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (256 pages) : illustrations

Disciplina 364

Soggetti Crime—Sociological aspects

Organized crime

Ethnology—Latin America

Communication
Discourse analysis
Crime and Society
Organized Crime
Latin American Culture
Media and Communication

Discourse Analysis

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index.

Sommario/riassunto This book analyses the punitive crime discourse in the Argentinean

press during the 1990s. Fernandez Roich focusses on several features of media discourse during this time, such as: the notion that petty criminals 'deserve to die' in reference to police brutality and killings, the phenomenon of 'vindicators' or how common citizens turned into 'evil' modern heroes in the press, and the parallelism between the military discourse under the military regime and the punitive discourse under democracy. In addition, the book also investigates the alleged natural propensity towards breaking the law ingrained within Argentinean culture, the so-called 'viveza criolla' and the wellingrained idea that to get ahead you have to participate in corrupt

practices. Despite the significant scholarly interest in the United States and Europe in the last Argentinean dictatorship (1976-1983), little attention has been paid to the role of Argentinean newspapers in supporting the military coup d'état. The analysis of this media discourse is critical to understanding the support enjoyed by the armed forces in power: the vast majority of the population was not informed about the disappearances or the concentration camps until well into the 1980s. This project provides an in-depth qualitative content analysis of front pages, chronicles, editorials and photographs of Argentinean newspapers before and after the military intervention that will aid scholars of criminal justice and Latin American political regimes understand the impact of the support given to the military government.