Record Nr. UNINA9910807792103321 Autore Weiss Sheila Faith Titolo The Nazi symbiosis: human genetics and politics in the Third Reich // Sheila Faith Weiss Chicago; ; London, : University of Chicago Press, 2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-283-05866-9 9786613058669 0-226-89179-8 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (392 p.) Disciplina 363.9/20943 Eugenics - Germany - History - 20th century Soggetti Human genetics - Political aspects - Germany - 20th century Human genetics - Government policy - Germany - 20th century Human genetics - Moral and ethical aspects - Germany - 20th century National socialism and science Germany Politics and government 1933-1945 Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto An old legend and a new legacy -- Human heredity and eugenics make their international debut -- The devil's directors at Dahlem -- The Munich pact -- The politics of professional talk -- Politicized pedagogy -- The international human genetics community faces Nazi Germany --The road not taken elsewhere: was there something unique about human heredity during the Third Reich? The Faustian bargain-in which an individual or group collaborates with Sommario/riassunto an evil entity in order to obtain knowledge, power, or material gain-is perhaps best exemplified by the alliance between world-renowned human geneticists and the Nazi state. Under the swastika, German scientists descended into the moral abyss, perpetrating heinous medical crimes at Auschwitz and at euthanasia hospitals. But why did biomedical researchers accept such a bargain? The Nazi Symbiosis offers a nuanced account of the myriad ways human heredity and Nazi politics reinforced each other before and during the Third Reich.

Exploring the ethical and professional consequences for the scientists

involved as well as the political ramifications for Nazi racial policies, Sheila Faith Weiss places genetics and eugenics in their larger international context. In questioning whether the motives that propelled German geneticists were different from the compromises that researchers from other countries and eras face, Weiss extends her argument into our modern moment, as we confront the promises and perils of genomic medicine today.