1. Record Nr. UNINA9910820323203321 Autore **Douglas Lawrence Titolo** The memory of judgment: making law and history in the trials of the holocaust / / Lawrence Douglas New Haven, [CT], : Yale University Press, c2001 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-300-13373-1 Edizione [1st ed.] 1 online resource (xiii, 318 pages): illustrations Descrizione fisica Disciplina 341.6/9 Soggetti Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945) - Historiography War crime trials - Europe Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. [267]-306) and index. Intro -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- Part One -Nota di contenuto Nuremberg -- 1 Film as Witness: Screening Nazi Concentration Camps Before the Nuremberg Tribunal -- 2 The Idiom of Judgment: Crimes Against Humanity -- 3 The Father Pointed to the Sky: Legitimacy and Tortured History -- Part Two - Eichmann -- 4 Ada Lichtmann on the Stand -- 5 The Court vs. the Prosecution: Policing Survivor Testimony -- 6 Didactic Legality and Heroic Memory -- Part Three - Zundel -- 7 Retrials and Precursors: Klaus Barbie and John Demjanjuk -- 8 "Did Six Million Really Die?": Holocaust Denial and the Law -- 9 Historians and Hearsay: The Denial Trials of Ernst Zundel -- 10 The Legal Imagination and Traumatic History -- Appendix: Nuremberg Defendants -- Notes -- Index. Sommario/riassunto This book offers the first detailed examination of the law's response to the crimes of the Holocaust. In offers a fascinating study of five exemplary proceedings-the Nuremberg trial of the major Nazi war criminals, the Israeli trials of Adolf Eichmann and John Demjanjuk, the French trial of Klaus Barbie, and the Canadian trial of Holocaust denier Ernst Zundel. These trials, the book argues, were 'show trials' in the broadest sense: they aimed to do justice both to the defendants and to the history and memory of the Holocaust. Douglas explores how prosecutors and jurors struggled to submit unprecedented crimes to

legal judgment, and in so doing, to reconcile the interests of justice and pedagogy. Against the attacks of such critics as Hannah Arendt,

Douglas defends the Nuremberg and Eichmann trials as imaginative, if flawed, responses to extreme crimes. By contrast, he shows how the Demjanjuk and Zundel trials turned into disasters of didactic legality, obfuscating the very history they were intended to illuminate. In their successes and shortcomings, Douglas contends, these proceedings changed our understandings of both the Holocaust and the legal process-revealing the value and limits of the criminal trial as a didactic tool.