

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910827317803321
Autore	Zahra Tara
Titolo	The lost children : reconstructing Europe's families after World War II // Tara Zahra
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, Mass., : Harvard University Press, 2011
ISBN	0-674-06137-3
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (320 p.)
Disciplina	362.87083/094
Soggetti	Refugee children - Europe - History War victims - Europe - History Families - Europe - History World War, 1939-1945 - Social aspects
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	The quintessential victims of war -- Saving the children -- A "psychological Marshall Plan" -- Renationalizing displaced children -- Children as spoils of war in France -- Ethnic cleansing and the family in Czechoslovakia -- Repatriation and the Cold War -- From divided families to a divided Europe.
Sommario/riassunto	During the Second World War, an unprecedented number of families were torn apart. As the Nazi empire crumbled, millions roamed the continent in search of their loved ones. The Lost Children tells the story of these families, and of the struggle to determine their fate. We see how the reconstruction of families quickly became synonymous with the survival of European civilization itself. Even as Allied officials and humanitarian organizations proclaimed a new era of individualist and internationalist values, Tara Zahra demonstrates that they defined the "best interests" of children in nationalist terms. Sovereign nations and families were seen as the key to the psychological rehabilitation of traumatized individuals and the peace and stability of Europe. Based on original research in German, French, Czech, Polish, and American archives, The Lost Children is a heartbreaking and mesmerizing story. It brings together the histories of eastern and western Europe, and traces the efforts of everyone—from Jewish Holocaust survivors to

German refugees, from Communist officials to American social workers-to rebuild the lives of displaced children. It reveals that many seemingly timeless ideals of the family were actually conceived in the concentration camps, orphanages, and refugee camps of the Second World War, and shows how the process of reconstruction shaped Cold War ideologies and ideas about childhood and national identity. This riveting tale of families destroyed by war reverberates in the lost children of today's wars and in the compelling issues of international adoption, human rights and humanitarianism, and refugee policies.

---