

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910827896403321
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Titolo	An American Genocide : The United States and the California Indian Catastrophe, 1846-1873 // Benjamin Madley
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Haven, CT : , : Yale University Press, , [2016] ©2016
ISBN	0-300-18217-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (709 p.)
Collana	The Lamar Series in Western History
Classificazione	15.85
Disciplina	979.404
Soggetti	Indians of North America - California Indians of North America - Crimes against - California Indians of North America - Government relations - California State-sponsored terrorism - California Indians, Treatment of - California California History 19th century California USA Kalifornien
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	Frontmatter -- CONTENTS -- Acknowledgments -- List of Abbreviations -- Introduction -- 1. California Indians before 1846 -- 2. Prelude to Genocide: March 1846- March 1848 -- 3. Gold, Immigrants, and Killers from Oregon: March 1848- May 1850 -- 4. Turning Point: The Killing Campaigns of December 1849- May 1850 -- 5. Legislating Exclusion and Vulnerability: 1846-1853 -- 6. Rise of the Killing Machine: Militias and Vigilantes, April 1850- December 1854 -- 7. Perfecting the Killing Machine: December 1854- March 1861 -- 8. The Civil War in California and Its Aftermath: March 1861-1871 -- 9. Conclusion -- Appendixes -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	The first full account of the government-sanctioned genocide of California Indians under United States rule Between 1846 and 1873, California's Indian population plunged from perhaps 150,000 to

30,000. Benjamin Madley is the first historian to uncover the full extent of the slaughter, the involvement of state and federal officials, the taxpayer dollars that supported the violence, indigenous resistance, who did the killing, and why the killings ended. This deeply researched book is a comprehensive and chilling history of an American genocide. Madley describes pre-contact California and precursors to the genocide before explaining how the Gold Rush stirred vigilante violence against California Indians. He narrates the rise of a state-sanctioned killing machine and the broad societal, judicial, and political support for genocide. Many participated: vigilantes, volunteer state militiamen, U.S. Army soldiers, U.S. congressmen, California governors, and others. The state and federal governments spent at least \$ 1,700,000 on campaigns against California Indians. Besides evaluating government officials' culpability, Madley considers why the slaughter constituted genocide and how other possible genocides within and beyond the Americas might be investigated using the methods presented in this groundbreaking book.
