

BATTLING FOR HEARTS AND MINDS



A book in the series

LATIN AMERICA OTHERWISE: LANGUAGES, EMPIRES, NATIONS

Series editors:

Walter D. Mignolo, Duke University

Irene Silverblatt, Duke University

Sonia Saldívar-Hull, University of California, Los Angeles

LATIN AMERICA OTHERWISE: LANGUAGES, EMPIRES, NATIONS

is a critical series. It aims to explore the emergence and consequences of concepts used to define “Latin America” while at the same time exploring the broad interplay of political, economic, and cultural practices that have shaped Latin American worlds. Latin America, at the crossroads of competing imperial designs and local responses, has been construed as a geocultural and geopolitical entity since the nineteenth century. This series provides a starting point to redefine Latin America as a configuration of political, linguistic, cultural, and economic intersections that demands a continuous reappraisal of the role of the Americas in history, and of the ongoing process of globalization and the relocation of people and cultures that have characterized Latin America’s experience. *Latin America Otherwise: Languages, Empires, Nations* is a forum that confronts established geocultural constructions, that rethinks area studies and disciplinary boundaries, that assesses convictions of the academy and of public policy, and that, correspondingly, demands that the practices through which we produce knowledge and understanding about and from Latin America be subject to rigorous and critical scrutiny.



September 11 brought terror to Chile when General Augusto Pinochet, in 1973, led a coup to overthrow the country's elected president, Salvador Allende. With the backing of the United States, Pinochet used the machinery of state to intimidate Chile's citizenry and unspeakable acts of state violence—torture and murder—became life's daily fare. Steve Stern here asks piercing questions of historical memory—how those who suffered as well as how those who caused such inhuman suffering recalled those terrible times.

Steve Stern has written an extraordinary trilogy, "The Memory Box of Pinochet's Chile," devoted to those years and how they were understood by participants in the horrors. *Battling for Hearts and Minds: Memory Struggles in Pinochet's Chile, 1973–1988*, the second book in the trilogy, focuses on the devastating period beginning with Pinochet's coup and ending with the plebiscite of 1988 when Chileans voted the dictator out of power. It explores struggles for political legitimacy as expressed by struggles over memory: the Chilean state's official view of history versus the voices of dissent that reckoned the past in a strikingly different calculus. Stern traces the changing balance of feelings toward Chile's past from the 1970s, when Pinochet captured the political apparatus and, to a significant extent, popular approval, to the 1980s, when his rule and the official presentation of the past were increasingly doubted. Stern points to four structures of memory through which Chile's past was understood, accepted, and challenged. These interacted in ways that transformed Chile's moral politics, and turned the idea of memory into a sacred symbol and battleground.

STEVE J. STERN



Battling for Hearts and Minds

Memory Struggles in Pinochet's Chile, 1973–1988

BOOK TWO OF THE TRILOGY: *The Memory Box of Pinochet's Chile*

Duke University Press Durham & London 2006

© 2006 Duke University Press

All rights reserved

Printed in the United States of America

on acid-free paper

Designed by C. H. Westmoreland

Typeset in Scala by Keystone Typesetting, Inc.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication

Data appear on the last printed page of

this book.



*Para mi tan querida Florencia,
mi chilenita de corazón,
corazón sin fronteras . . .*

