

Visualizing Atrocity

CRITICAL CULTURAL COMMUNICATION

General Editors: Sarah Banet-Weiser and Kent A. Ono

Dangerous Curves: Latina Bodies in the Media

Isabel Molina-Guzmán

The Net Effect: Technology, Romanticism, Capitalism

Thomas Streeter

Our Biometric Future: The Pursuit of Automated Facial Perception

Kelly A. Gates

Critical Rhetorics of Race

Edited by Michael G. Lacy and Kent A. Ono

Circuits of Visibility: Gender and Transnational Media Cultures

Edited by Radha S. Hegde

Commodity Activism: Cultural Resistance in Neoliberal Times

Edited by Roopali Mukherjee and Sarah Banet-Weiser

Arabs and Muslims in the Media: Race and Representation after 9/11

Evelyn Alsultany

Visualizing Atrocity: Arendt, Evil, and the Optics of Thoughtlessness

Valerie Hartouni

Visualizing Atrocity

Arendt, Evil, and the Optics of Thoughtlessness

Valerie Hartouni



NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS

New York and London

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS

New York and London

www.nyupress.org

© 2012 by New York University

All rights reserved

References to Internet Websites (URLs) were accurate at the time of writing. Neither the author nor New York University Press is responsible for URLs that may have expired or changed since the manuscript was prepared.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Hartouni, Valerie.

Visualizing atrocity : Arendt, evil, and the optics of thoughtlessness

/ Valerie Hartouni.

p. cm. — (Critical cultural communication)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-0-8147-3849-8 (cloth : acid-free paper)

ISBN 978-0-8147-6976-8 (pbk. : acid-free paper)

ISBN 978-0-8147-7183-9 (ebook)

ISBN 978-0-8147-3899-3 (ebook)

1. Arendt, Hannah, 1906–1975. Eichmann in Jerusalem. 2. Arendt, Hannah, 1906–1975—Criticism and interpretation. 3. Arendt, Hannah, 1906–1975—Political and social views. 4. Eichmann, Adolf, 1906–1962—Trials, litigation, etc. 5. War crime trials—Jerusalem—History—20th century. 6. Holocaust, Jewish (1939–1945) 7. World War, 1939–1945—Atrocities Germany. 8. Genocide—Germany—History—20th century. 9. Good and evil—Political aspects. 10. Good and evil—Social aspects. I. Title.

DD247.B5A734 2012

940.5318092—dc23 2011051503

New York University Press books are printed on acid-free paper, and their binding materials are chosen for strength and durability. We strive to use environmentally responsible suppliers and materials to the greatest extent possible in publishing our books.

Manufactured in the United States of America

C 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

P 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1