

a problem from hell by samantha power

A Problem from Hell by Samantha Power: Unveiling the Tragedy of Genocide and the Challenge of Intervention

a problem from hell by samantha power is more than just the title of a compelling book—it represents a profound exploration into one of humanity's darkest failures: the global community's repeated inability to prevent and stop genocide. Samantha Power's groundbreaking work delves deep into the history of genocides in the 20th century, uncovering the political, moral, and bureaucratic obstacles that have hindered international action. If you've ever wondered why, despite overwhelming evidence and humanitarian crises, the world often stands by passively, this book offers eye-opening insights.

In this article, we'll explore the key themes of "A Problem from Hell," discuss Samantha Power's unique perspective as a journalist and diplomat, and consider the broader implications of her work on international relations and human rights. Whether you're a student of history, a human rights advocate, or simply curious about the complexities of foreign policy, understanding the lessons from this book is essential.

What Is “A Problem from Hell” About?

At its core, Samantha Power's "A Problem from Hell: America and the Age of Genocide" is a detailed historical account tracing the United States' response—or lack thereof—to major genocides during the 20th century. The book covers atrocities from the Armenian genocide during World War I to the horrors in Cambodia, Bosnia, and Rwanda. Power meticulously documents how political leaders, diplomats, and policymakers repeatedly failed to recognize genocide promptly or chose to ignore it due to competing interests.

This narrative is not just about history; it serves as a sobering reflection on the moral responsibilities of nations and the international community. Power's work challenges readers to confront uncomfortable

questions: Why do states hesitate to intervene? What role do political calculations play in decisions about humanitarian crises? How can the world do better in preventing such atrocities?

The Origins of the Book

Samantha Power, a journalist with a passion for human rights, was inspired to write "A Problem from Hell" after covering humanitarian crises firsthand. Her experiences brought to light the disconnect between the awareness of genocide and the political will to act. Published in 2002, the book earned the Pulitzer Prize for General Non-Fiction, reflecting its impact and importance.

Power's unique position—as both a chronicler and later a policymaker serving as the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations—adds depth to her analysis. She combines rigorous research with personal insight, making the book resonate beyond academic circles.

Key Themes in “A Problem from Hell by Samantha Power”

Several major themes run throughout the book, each shedding light on why genocide remains a “problem from hell” for the international community.

The Reluctance to Recognize Genocide

One of the most powerful points Power makes is how governments often avoid labeling atrocities as “genocide.” The term carries legal obligations under the 1948 Genocide Convention, and acknowledging it can force countries to act. Political leaders frequently use euphemisms or deny the severity of the situation to sidestep responsibility, a phenomenon Power calls the “genocide denial.”

This reluctance is not just semantics—it has real consequences. Delays in recognizing genocide lead to

delays in intervention, allowing mass atrocities to escalate unchecked.

The Role of Realpolitik and National Interest

Power emphasizes how strategic interests often overshadow moral imperatives. Whether driven by Cold War considerations, economic relations, or geopolitical alliances, governments have historically prioritized their own agendas over humanitarian intervention.

For example, during the Cambodian genocide under the Khmer Rouge, U.S. policymakers hesitated to intervene directly despite clear evidence of mass killings, partly because of the complex dynamics of Southeast Asian politics and the desire to counterbalance Vietnam.

The Failure of International Institutions

While the United Nations and other global bodies were created to promote peace and prevent atrocities, Power highlights their frequent ineffectiveness. Bureaucratic inertia, veto power among Security Council members, and the lack of enforcement mechanisms often prevent timely and decisive action.

This theme resonates today as the world continues to grapple with mass violence in regions like Darfur, Syria, and Myanmar.

Why “A Problem from Hell by Samantha Power” Matters Today

Although the book focuses heavily on the 20th century, its lessons remain incredibly relevant.

Understanding the challenges of genocide prevention is crucial in an era where ethnic cleansing, mass killings, and crimes against humanity still occur.

Lessons for Policymakers and Advocates

Power's analysis offers valuable guidance for those involved in international relations and human rights advocacy:

- **Early Warning and Recognition:** Identifying signs of genocide early can save countless lives. Raising awareness and using appropriate terminology matter.
- **Political Will Is Essential:** Even with evidence, without commitment from leaders, intervention is unlikely. Advocates must push for accountability and moral leadership.
- **International Cooperation:** No country can tackle genocide alone. Strengthening multilateral institutions and fostering collaboration is key.

Impact on Samantha Power's Career

The insights Power gained from researching and writing "A Problem from Hell" influenced her own role in government. As U.S. Ambassador to the UN under President Obama, she championed human rights, humanitarian intervention, and efforts to prevent mass atrocities. Her work exemplifies how scholarship can inform practical policy.

Expanding the Conversation: Related Works and Perspectives

"A Problem from Hell by Samantha Power" has inspired numerous discussions, critiques, and further research into genocide and international response. It sits alongside other important works that examine

human rights failures, such as:

- “We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will Be Killed With Our Families” by Philip Gourevitch, focusing on the Rwandan genocide.
- “The Origins of Genocide” by Leo Kuper, exploring the sociopolitical causes of mass violence.
- Reports from international bodies like the International Criminal Court and Human Rights Watch that continue to document ongoing atrocities.

These resources complement Power’s work by providing different angles and case studies, helping readers grasp the complexity of genocide prevention.

How You Can Engage With the Topic

If "A Problem from Hell" sparks your interest in human rights and international justice, there are several ways to deepen your involvement:

1. **Educate Yourself and Others:** Read widely on history, international law, and current events related to human rights.
2. **Support Organizations:** Many NGOs work on genocide prevention and refugee assistance—consider volunteering or donating.
3. **Advocate for Policy Change:** Use your voice to encourage governments to uphold their responsibilities under international conventions.

Understanding the past is the first step toward creating a more just and compassionate world.

Samantha Power's "A Problem from Hell" challenges us to confront uncomfortable truths about human cruelty and political failure. It calls for vigilance, empathy, and courage to ensure that the horrors of genocide do not repeat. By engaging with her work, readers gain not only knowledge but also inspiration to contribute toward a more humane global community.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of 'A Problem from Hell' by Samantha Power?

The main theme of 'A Problem from Hell' is the international community's failure to prevent and respond effectively to genocides and mass atrocities throughout the 20th century.

Who is Samantha Power, the author of 'A Problem from Hell'?

Samantha Power is a Pulitzer Prize-winning author, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, and a human rights advocate known for her work on genocide prevention.

What historical genocides does 'A Problem from Hell' cover?

The book covers several genocides including the Armenian Genocide, the Holocaust, the Cambodian Genocide, the Bosnian Genocide, and the Rwandan Genocide, among others.

Why is 'A Problem from Hell' considered an important book in human rights literature?

It is considered important because it critically examines the repeated failures of governments and

international organizations to intervene in genocides, highlighting the moral and political challenges involved.

How does Samantha Power propose the international community should respond to genocide in 'A Problem from Hell'?

Power advocates for proactive and decisive intervention, emphasizing the moral responsibility to prevent genocide through early warning, diplomatic pressure, and, when necessary, military action.

What impact did 'A Problem from Hell' have on U.S. foreign policy?

The book influenced discussions about U.S. responsibility in preventing genocide and mass atrocities, shaping policies related to humanitarian intervention and the doctrine of the Responsibility to Protect.

Did 'A Problem from Hell' receive any notable awards or recognition?

Yes, the book won the Pulitzer Prize for General Non-Fiction in 2003 and received widespread critical acclaim for its thorough research and compelling narrative.

Additional Resources

****A Problem from Hell by Samantha Power: An In-Depth Examination of Genocide and International Inaction****

a problem from hell by samantha power is a seminal work that delves into the harrowing history of genocide in the twentieth century and critically examines the persistent failure of the international community to prevent or halt these atrocities. Power's meticulously researched book stands as both a historical document and a moral indictment, shedding light on the complex interplay between politics, human rights, and global indifference.

As a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Samantha Power brings a unique blend of scholarly rigor and firsthand diplomatic experience to this investigation.

The book's title, drawn from a chilling phrase describing genocide as an almost inescapable calamity, encapsulates the grim reality that despite repeated warnings, early signs, and overwhelming evidence, mass atrocities have continued unabated.

Unpacking the Central Themes of *A Problem from Hell*

At its core, *A Problem from Hell* by Samantha Power is an exploration of genocide's persistence and the consistent failure of governments and international institutions to respond decisively. Power's analysis moves beyond mere historical recounting; it interrogates why the global community—particularly the United States—has time and again chosen political expediency or national interest over moral responsibility.

One of the book's most compelling contributions is its detailed case studies of genocides, including the Armenian genocide, the Holocaust, Cambodia under the Khmer Rouge, Rwanda, and Bosnia. By juxtaposing these tragedies, Power uncovers troubling patterns: denial, delayed responses, and selective intervention. This comparative approach not only highlights the scale of human suffering but also reveals systemic flaws in international diplomacy and legal frameworks.

The Role of the United States and International Politics

Power's investigation is particularly critical of U.S. foreign policy, which she characterizes as often reactive and constrained by geopolitical calculations. The reluctance to label atrocities as "genocide" due to political implications—such as straining diplomatic relations or hindering military alliances—is a recurrent theme. For example, the U.S. government's hesitance during the Rwandan genocide in 1994 is a stark illustration of how political caution can translate into catastrophic human costs.

Moreover, *A Problem from Hell* discusses the limitations of international institutions like the United Nations. Despite its mandate to maintain global peace and security, the UN has frequently been hamstrung by veto powers and bureaucratic inertia, which impede timely and effective intervention.

Power's analysis highlights the tension between national sovereignty and humanitarian intervention, a debate that remains highly relevant in contemporary conflicts.

Historical Context and Evolution of Genocide Recognition

Power meticulously traces the evolution of the concept of genocide from its coinage by Raphael Lemkin in the 1940s to its codification in international law. The book charts how recognition of genocide as a distinct crime emerged after World War II, particularly following the Holocaust, but points out that legal frameworks have struggled to keep pace with political realities.

The reluctance to confront genocide often stems from fear of setting precedents that might obligate intervention elsewhere. Power argues that this hesitance is not merely a legal or diplomatic issue but also a profound moral failure. This is poignantly illustrated by the slow progress in establishing mechanisms like the International Criminal Court, which aims to prosecute those responsible for mass atrocities.

Critical Reception and Impact on Human Rights Discourse

Since its publication, *A Problem From Hell* by Samantha Power has been widely acclaimed for its incisive critique and compassionate storytelling. The book has influenced policymakers, scholars, and activists by providing a factual foundation and moral urgency to debates surrounding humanitarian intervention and the responsibility to protect (R2P).

Reviewers have praised Power's ability to combine narrative history with analytical depth, creating a work that is both accessible and authoritative. Some critiques, however, point to the book's focus on U.S. policy as potentially narrowing a global issue that involves multiple actors. Nonetheless, the book's contribution to raising awareness about genocide and international accountability is indisputable.

Key Features and Contributions of the Book

- **Comprehensive Case Studies:** Detailed examinations of multiple genocides provide a rich comparative perspective.
- **Integration of Historical and Political Analysis:** Power combines storytelling with critical assessment of policy decisions.
- **Focus on Moral Responsibility:** The book challenges readers and governments to confront the ethical dimensions of genocide prevention.
- **Influence on Policy and Academia:** It has shaped discourse on humanitarian intervention and international law.

Relevance of *A Problem from Hell* in Contemporary Global Affairs

The themes explored in *A Problem from Hell* by Samantha Power remain deeply relevant as the international community continues to grapple with crises in regions such as Myanmar, Syria, and South Sudan. The book's insights into the mechanisms of denial and delay serve as cautionary lessons for policymakers and humanitarian organizations.

Furthermore, the ongoing debates about sovereignty versus intervention, the role of international institutions, and the political will necessary to prevent mass atrocities echo the concerns Power raised decades ago. In an era marked by rising nationalism and geopolitical rivalry, the lessons of *A Problem from Hell* challenge nations to reconsider priorities in foreign policy and global governance.

Lessons for Future Genocide Prevention

Drawing from the book's analysis, several lessons emerge for enhancing global responses to genocide:

1. **Early Recognition and Naming:** Acknowledging genocide promptly is crucial to mobilizing international action.
2. **Political Courage:** Governments must prioritize human rights over narrow strategic interests.
3. **Strengthening International Institutions:** Reforming bodies like the UN and empowering courts to act decisively.
4. **Public Awareness and Advocacy:** Engaged civil societies can pressure leaders to respond to humanitarian crises.

By emphasizing these points, Power's work continues to serve as a moral compass and a call to action for the global community.

a problem from hell by samantha power stands as a pivotal text in understanding the complexities of genocide and international inaction. Its blend of historical narrative, political analysis, and moral inquiry invites ongoing reflection on how humanity can overcome the "problem from hell" and move toward a future where such atrocities are no longer tolerated or ignored.

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a problem from hell by samantha power: "A Problem from Hell" Samantha Power, 2013-05-14 From former UN Ambassador and author of the New York Times bestseller *The Education of an Idealist* Samantha Power, the Pulitzer Prize-winning book on America's repeated failure to stop genocides around the world In her prizewinning examination of the last century of American history, Samantha Power asks the haunting question: Why do American leaders who vow never again repeatedly fail to stop genocide? Power, a professor at the Harvard Kennedy School and the former US Ambassador to the United Nations, draws upon exclusive interviews with Washington's top policymakers, thousands of declassified documents, and her own reporting from modern killing fields to provide the answer. *A Problem from Hell* shows how decent Americans inside and outside government refused to get involved despite chilling warnings, and tells the stories of the courageous Americans who risked their careers and lives in an effort to get the United States to act. A modern classic and an angry, brilliant, fiercely useful, absolutely essential book (New Republic), *A Problem from Hell* has forever reshaped debates about American foreign policy. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize Winner of the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award Winner of the J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize Winner of the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award Winner of the Raphael Lemkin Award

a problem from hell by samantha power: Friedensgutachten 2017 Bruno Schoch, Andreas Heinemann-Grüder, Corinna Hauswedell, Jochen Hippler, Margret Johannsen, 2016 Wie lässt sich Gewalt bändigen, wenn die kooperative Weltordnung zerfällt? Schwere Turbulenzen bestimmen die internationale Politik. Die Ansätze für eine kooperative Weltordnung erodieren, die globale Ungleichheit nimmt zu, Hoffnungen auf das Völkerrecht sind zurückgeworfen. Syrien steht für das Versagen der Staatengemeinschaft, Kriegsverbrechen und massenhafte Gräueltaten zu unterbinden. Annahmen im Westen, man könne mittels Militär Bürgerkriege eindämmen oder gar Demokratie erzwingen, haben sich nach den Erfahrungen in Afghanistan, im Irak und in Libyen verflüchtigt. Russland agiert in der Ukraine revisionistisch und führt in Syrien einen Krieg um den eigenen Großmachtstatus. Donald Trumps Wahl markiert eine Zäsur ins Ungewisse. Mit dem Motto *America first* verabschieden sich die USA von ihrer seit 1941 verfolgten Weltordnungspolitik und scheinen Protektionismus an die Stelle multilateraler Zusammenarbeit setzen zu wollen. Wir fragen, wie sich Gewaltkonflikte unter diesen Bedingungen bändigen lassen. Die EU, von Nationalisten und europafeindlichen Populisten mächtig unter Druck, muss sich den dramatisch veränderten Herausforderungen von innen und auch von außen stellen. Nolens volens wachsen Gewicht und Verantwortung Deutschlands in Europa und in der internationalen Politik. Welche Strategien und Instrumente taugen, um Gewaltexzesse zu verhindern und solidarisches und friedensförderliches Handeln auf den Weg zu bringen? Dazu analysieren wir eine Reihe von Friedensprozessen und -verhandlungen. In Kolumbien immerhin keimt Hoffnung, es könne gelingen, einen der langwierigsten Bürgerkriege zu beenden. Das Friedensgutachten, gefördert von der Deutschen Stiftung Friedensforschung (DSF), wird im Auftrag der fünf deutschen Friedensforschungsinstitute herausgegeben von Bruno Schoch, Andreas Heinemann-Grüder, Corinna Hauswedell, Jochen Hippler und Margret Johannsen. www.friedensgutachten.de

a problem from hell by samantha power: Militärische Missionen Hubert Zimmermann, 2023-08-21 Militärische Eingriffe in fremden Territorien gehören zu den großen Triebkräften der Weltgeschichte. Gewöhnlich lagen ihre Ursachen in der Gier nach Macht, Land oder Reichtümern begründet. Seit dem 19. Jahrhundert hat sich ein neuer Typus etabliert: militärische Interventionen,

die nicht mehr vornehmlich auf Vergeltung, Eroberung oder Machtgewinn abzielen, sondern auf die Herstellung kollektiver und individueller Sicherheit durch die Stabilisierung fremder Territorien. Hubert Zimmermann zeichnet, basierend auf umfangreichen Fallstudien zu den USA, Deutschland und Frankreich, die spannende Geschichte militärischer Interventionen und ihrer Rechtfertigungen im internationalen Vergleich bis in die Gegenwart nach. Wie wandelten sich im Laufe der Geschichte die Motive und Begründungen? Welche Konflikte und Widersprüche tauchten immer wieder auf? Ganz wesentlich geht es bei der Rechtfertigung von Auslandseinsätzen um die eigene Identität im Verhältnis zu anderen Gesellschaften. In diesem Sinne ist dieses Buch auch eine Reflexion über die seit jeher umstrittenen Vorstellungen von Rechtmäßigkeit und Verhältnismäßigkeit im Umgang der Staaten untereinander.

a problem from hell by samantha power: Das Ende des amerikanischen Jahrhunderts George Packer, 2022-11-15 Der amerikanische Journalist George Packer beschreibt, wie die USA sich in den vergangenen Jahrzehnten aus der Diplomatie zurückgezogen haben, und dokumentiert den Rückgang des amerikanischen Einflusses in der Welt. Als Leitfigur dient ihm der 2010 verstorbene Spitzendiplomat Richard Holbrooke, in dessen Haltung und Persönlichkeit sein Land zum Vorschein kam: laut, tollpatschig, aber auch optimistisch, idealistisch und pragmatisch. Holbrooke wird bei Packer zu einer übergroßen, tragisch-komischen Figur, mit der das amerikanische Jahrhundert aufblüht und schließlich zu Ende geht: Holbrooke stirbt plötzlich im Büro von Außenministerin Hillary Clinton, deren Job er fanatisch gern übernommen hätte. George Packer, Autor der «Abwicklung» und von «Die letzte beste Hoffnung», liefert eine romanhafte Doppelbiografie und spiegelt in Holbrookes Leben die Größe, aber auch das Scheitern des amerikanischen Jahrhunderts.

a problem from hell by samantha power: *Die Zukunft der Außenpolitik ist feministisch* Kristina Lunz, 2022-02-24 Kein Frieden ohne Feminismus Immer noch dominieren alte, weiße, westliche Männer die Politik sowie Theorie und Praxis der internationalen Beziehungen. Dadurch werden die Bedürfnisse von Frauen und Minderheiten permanent ignoriert. Die Welt ist voller Kriege, Krisen und Unrecht. Kristina Lunz tritt mit ihrem Centre for Feminist Foreign Policy an, das zu ändern. Die Politikwissenschaftlerin, Aktivistin und Entrepreneurin denkt Frieden, Menschenrechte und Gerechtigkeit mit Außenpolitik zusammen und will so einen Paradigmenwechsel einleiten: Machtgebaren und militärischen Muskelspielen setzt sie Mediation in Friedensverhandlungen, feministische Machtanalysen und Klimagerechtigkeit entgegen. Realpolitik wird gegen Utopien ausgetauscht, und Botschafterinnen gibt es genauso viele wie Botschafter. So kann das Gegeneinander der Nationen endlich abgelöst werden, und alle werden in größerer Sicherheit und mit weniger Konflikten leben können. »Eine kühne Vision für eine nachhaltige Zukunft« - Margot Wallström, Außenministerin von Schweden (2014-2019) »Mit ihrem Buch deckt Kristina Lunz in brillanter Weise die brutalen Muster der männlichen Dominanz auf globaler Ebene auf. Anhand von konkreten Beispielen zeigt sie, wie patriarchale Strukturen unsere Welt durch Gier, Gewalt und Machtmissbrauch allmählich zerstören. Lunz zeigt die Möglichkeit einer gerechteren und sicheren Welt - und somit einen Weg aus der gegenwärtigen Krise.« - Emilia Roig » Nach diesem Buch werden Sie anders auf die Welt blicken. Und eine Einladung zu mutiger Mitmenschlichkeit erhalten haben: das Silencing, mit dem strukturelle Gewalt normalisiert wird, können wir nur solidarisch brechen.« - Maja Göpel » Mit diesem Buch legt Kristina Lunz den Finger in die Wunde und führt eloquent und scharfsinnig vor: Eine feministische Außenpolitik ist dringlich und notwendig. Und zwar nicht zur Konstruktion kolonialer Überlegenheit, sondern zur De konstruktion ebendieser.« - Kübra Gümüşay »Kristina Lunz zeigt auf, wie eine künftige Außenpolitik aussehen könnte, die Menschenrechte und menschliche Sicherheit in den Mittelpunkt stellt. Ein mutiger und lesenswerter Entwurf!« - Düsen Tekkal »Geschlechtergerechtigkeit Realität werden zu lassen - dafür lohnt es sich zu engagieren. Denn Fortschritt passiert nicht von allein. Kristina Lunz zeigt engagiert, zugespitzt und deutlich: Geschichte wird von Menschen gemacht. « - Michelle Müntefering em»Dieses Buch wird Sie dazu bringen, den Status quo der Sicherheits- und Außenpolitik zu hinterfragen und ihn humaner, effektiver und inklusiver neu zu denken.« - Madeleine Rees, Generalsekretärin der Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

a problem from hell by samantha power: The Problems of Genocide A. Dirk Moses, 2021-02-04 Historically delineates the problems of genocide as a concept in relation to rival categories of mass violence.

a problem from hell by samantha power: Genocide Lila Perl, 2010 This engaging series examines various controversial topics present in today's society.

a problem from hell by samantha power: Controversies in Body Theology Marcella Althaus-Reid, Lisa Isherwood, 2008 Examines some of the most extreme approaches to the body that our society engages with. This book embraces the difficult and challenging areas of the body and society, as an embodied resource for the ever-expanding task of considering the nature of incarnation through the lens of body theology.

a problem from hell by samantha power: War Is Not Inevitable Henri Parens, 2014-07-22 In 1932 Einstein asked Freud, 'Is there any way of delivering mankind from the menace of war?' Freud answered that war is inevitable because humans have an instinct to self-destroy, a death instinct which we must externalize to survive. But nearly four decades of study of aggression reveal that rather than being an inborn drive, destructiveness is generated in us by experiences of excessive psychic pain. In *War Is Not Inevitable: On the Psychology of War and Aggression*, Henri Parens argues that the death-instinct based model of aggression can neither be proved nor disproved as Freud's answer is untestable. By contrast, the 'multi-trends theory of aggression' is provable and has greater heuristic value than does a death-instinct based model of aggression. When we look for causes for war we turn to history as well as national, ethnic, territorial, and or political issues, among many others, but we also tend to ignore the psychological factors that play a large role. Parens discusses such psychological factors that seem to lead large groups into conflict. Central among these are the psychodynamics of large-group narcissism. Interactional conditions stand out: hyper-narcissistic large-groups have, in history, caused much narcissistic injury to those they believe they are superior to. But this is commonly followed by the narcissistically injured group's experiencing high level hostile destructiveness toward their injury-perpetrator which, in time, will compel them to revenge. Among groups that have been engaged in serial conflicts, wars have followed from this psychodynamic narcissism-based cyclicity. Parens details some of the psychodynamics that led from World War I to World War II and their respective aftermath, and he addresses how major factors that gave rise to these wars must, can, and have been counteracted. In doing so, Parens considers strategies by which civilization has and is constructively preventing wars, as well as the need for further innovative efforts to achieve that end.

a problem from hell by samantha power: Global Women Leaders Kathleen Mollick, Michele Lockhart, 2014-09-24 *Global Women Leaders: Studies in Feminist Political Rhetoric* demonstrates the ways in which women have used political rhetoric and political discourse to provide leadership, or assert their right to leadership, on a global level. This collection fits into the robust research area of international political women and their use of language in gaining and maintaining political power. It casts a wider net in terms of discussing women's efforts to assert and preserve their roles of authority, particularly when their audiences may perceive their authority as illegitimate due to gender. Chapters dedicated to Elizabeth II and Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser discuss the more traditional ways in which women leaders use language to construct political power. Other chapters focus on women who serve as political activists, either individually or as part of a group, including Aasma Mahfouz of the Egyptian Revolution of 2011 and the women who help direct United Nations policy through their speeches in the General Assembly. *Global Women Leaders* will appeal to scholars of political communication and international rhetoric.

a problem from hell by samantha power: One-hundred Days of Silence Jared Cohen, 2007 *One Hundred Days of Silence* is an important investigation into the 1994 Rwandan genocide and American foreign policy. During one hundred days of spring, eight-hundred thousand Rwandan Tutsis and sympathetic Hutus were slaughtered in one of the most atrocious events of the twentieth century. Drawing on declassified documents and testimony of policy makers, Jared Cohen critically reconstructs the historical account of tacit policy that led to nonintervention. His analysis examines

the questions of what the United States knew about the genocide and how the world's most powerful nation turned a blind eye. The study reveals the ease at which an administration can not only fail to intervene but also silence discussion of the crisis. The book argues that despite the extent of the genocide the American government was not motivated to act due to a lack of economic interest. With precision and passion, *One Hundred Days of Silence* frames the debate surrounding this controversial history.

a problem from hell by samantha power: *The Ethics of War and Peace Revisited* Daniel R. Brunstetter, Jean-Vincent Holeindre, 2018-01-10 How do we frame decisions to use or abstain from military force? Who should do the killing? Do we need new paradigms to guide the use of force? And what does “victory” mean in contemporary conflict? In many ways, these are timeless questions. But they should be revisited in light of changing circumstances in the twenty-first century. The post-Cold War, post-9/11 world is one of contested and fragmented sovereignty: contested because the norm of territorial integrity has shed some of its absolute nature, fragmented because some states do not control all of their territory and cannot defeat violent groups operating within their borders. Humanitarian intervention, preventive war, and just war are all framing mechanisms aimed at convincing domestic and international audiences to go to war—or not, as well as to decide who is justified in legally and ethically killing. The international group of scholars assembled in this book critically examine these frameworks to ask if they are flawed, and if so, how they can be improved. Finally, the volume contemplates what all the killing and dying is for if victory ultimately proves elusive.

a problem from hell by samantha power: *Holocaust* Deborah E. Lipstadt, 2016-07-21 Immediately after World War II, there was little discussion of the Holocaust, but today the word has grown into a potent political and moral symbol, recognized by all. In *Holocaust: An American Understanding*, renowned historian Deborah E. Lipstadt explores this striking evolution in Holocaust consciousness, revealing how a broad array of Americans—from students in middle schools to presidents of the United States—tried to make sense of this inexplicable disaster, and how they came to use the Holocaust as a lens to interpret their own history. Lipstadt weaves a powerful narrative that touches on events as varied as the civil rights movement, Vietnam, Stonewall, and the women’s movement, as well as controversies over Bitburg, the Rwandan genocide, and the bombing of Kosovo. Drawing upon extensive research on politics, popular culture, student protests, religious debates and various strains of Zionist ideologies, Lipstadt traces how the Holocaust became integral to the fabric of American life. Even popular culture, including such films as *Dr. Strangelove* and such books as John Hershey’s *The Wall*, was influenced by and in turn influenced thinking about the Holocaust. Equally important, the book shows how Americans used the Holocaust to make sense of what was happening in the United States. Many Americans saw the civil rights movement in light of Nazi oppression, for example, while others feared that American soldiers in Vietnam were destroying a people identified by the government as the enemy. Lipstadt demonstrates that the Holocaust became not just a tragedy to be understood but also a tool for interpreting America and its place in the world. Ultimately *Holocaust: An American Understanding* tells us as much about America in the years since the end of World War II as it does about the Holocaust itself.

a problem from hell by samantha power: *Spectrum of Terror* R. Hrair Dekmejian, 2006-02-07 Since 9/11, images of fanatical jihadists have become the international symbol of terrorism. In the wake of the attacks, journalists and academics alike have taken up the task of trying to make sense of these seemingly alien terrorist organizations. Many of these sources have perpetuated the idea that terrorists are unknowable or irrational. What is often missed is the degree to which terrorists have motivations that can be grasped and understood. In his new text, Dekmejian places terrorism within a spectrum of political violence, creating a typology of terror based on scale and intent as well as by type of actor—from isolated attacks by individual bombers, to large scale attacks against state targets by organized networks, to state-sponsored genocide and politicide—thus facilitating comparisons across multiple cases. As well, the book’s model of conflict is informed by game theory, enriched with understandings of psychological, cultural, and historical

contexts, helping students focus on the strategies and desired outcomes of different parties to conflict. This analytic approach enables students to trace the changes in mutual perceptions and preferences between terrorists and their targets and leads to a fuller understanding of the causes and dynamics of political violence. The book's uniquely comprehensive coverage of terrorism includes extended cases on the IRA, the Tamil Tigers, Chechen rebels, Al Qaeda, Aum Shinrikyo, Hizbullah, and Hamas. Each case looks at the historical origins, political factors, leadership, and organization of the group to give context. Discussions of typical tactics, patterns of violence, the role of external actors, and outcomes help readers to explore possible solutions that might stop the cycle of violence and promote peaceful coexistence among the antagonists. Appendix materials include glossaries of terrorist groups and technical terms.

a problem from hell by samantha power: An Outsider in the White House Betty Glad, 2009 Based on recently declassified documents in the Carter Library and interviews, this book is a nuanced depiction of the relationship between policy and character. It is also a poignant history of damaged ideals.

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a problem from hell by samantha power: Congo Stories John Prendergast, Fidel Bafilemba, 2018-12-04 From the author of the New York Times bestselling and award-winning Not on Our Watch, John Prendergast co-writes a compelling book with Fidel Bafilemba--with stunning photographs by Ryan Gosling--revealing the way in which the people and resources of the Democratic Republic of Congo have been used throughout the last five centuries to build, develop, advance, and safeguard the United States and Europe. The book highlights the devastating price Congo has paid for that support. However, the way the world deals with Congo is finally changing, and the book tells the remarkable stories of those in Congo and the United States leading that transformation. The people of Congo are fighting back against a tidal wave of international exploitation and governmental oppression to make things better for their nation, their neighborhoods, and their families. They are risking their lives to resist and alter the deadly status quo. And now, finally, there are human rights movements led by young people in the United States and Europe building solidarity with Congolese change-makers in support of dignity, justice, and equality for the Congolese people. As a result, the way the world deal with Congo is finally changing. Fidel Bafilemba, Ryan Gosling, and John Prendergast traveled to Congo to document some of the stories not only of the Congolese upstanders who are building a better future for their country but also of young Congolese people overcoming enormous odds just to go to school and help take care of their families. Through Gosling's photographs of Congolese daily life, Bafilemba's profiles of heroic Congolese activists, and Prendergast's narratives of the extraordinary history and evolving social movements that directly link Congo with the United States and Europe, Congo Stories provides windows into the history, the people, the challenges, the possibilities, and the movements that could

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a problem from hell by samantha power: *Freundliche Fanatiker* Pankaj Mishra, 2021-04-28
Eine erhellende Analyse der politischen Irrwege unserer Zeit – jenseits der eurozentrischen Perspektive: Der bekannte Schriftsteller und Publizist Pankaj Mishra nimmt die selbstzufriedenen Gedankengebäude des Westens in den Blick. Er zeigt, dass der Mythos vom »überlegenen Westen« bis heute nicht hinterfragt wird. Rassismus, Kolonialismus und Imperialismus werden aus der Erzählung vom demokratischen Aufstieg verbannt, einfache, von Ressentiments geprägte Welterklärungen werden zum Mainstream. So entstand der Neoliberalismus aus der Angst der Weißen um ihre Vorherrschaft. Und der westliche Liberalismus ist gar nicht so liberal, denn er definiert die eigene Kultur als die maßgebliche und brandmarkt andere Entwürfe als rückständig oder autoritär. Die wahren Feinde der Demokratie aber sind jene, die angeblich ihre Werte verteidigen: Dies zeigt der in den USA tief verwurzelte Rassismus ebenso wie die Angst vor islamistischen Invasoren. Mit solchen Beispielen hält uns Mishra den Spiegel vor und macht sichtbar, wie brüchig das Fundament ist, auf dem unsere westliche Welt errichtet wurde: Eine freiheitliche Demokratie, in der Gleichheit und Menschenwürde verwirklicht sind, ist noch nicht erreicht.

a problem from hell by samantha power: *One Hundred Days of Silence* Jared A. Cohen, 2006-12-28
One Hundred Days of Silence is an important investigation into the 1994 Rwandan genocide and American foreign policy. During one hundred days of spring, eight-hundred thousand Rwandan Tutsis and sympathetic Hutus were slaughtered in one of the most atrocious events of the twentieth century. Drawing on declassified documents and testimony of policy makers, Jared Cohen critically reconstructs the historical account of tacit policy that led to nonintervention. His analysis examines the questions of what the United States knew about the genocide and how the world's most powerful nation turned a blind eye. The study reveals the ease at which an administration can not only fail to intervene but also silence discussion of the crisis. The book argues that despite the extent of the genocide the American government was not motivated to act due to a lack of economic interest. With precision and passion, One Hundred Days of Silence frames the debate surrounding this controversial history.

a problem from hell by samantha power: *After Evil* Robert Meister, 2011
The way in which mainstream human rights discourse speaks of such evils as the Holocaust, slavery, or apartheid puts them solidly in the past. Its elaborate techniques of transitional justice encourage future generations to move forward by creating a false assumption of closure, enabling those who are guilty to elude responsibility. This approach to history, common to late-twentieth-century humanitarianism, doesn't presuppose that evil ends when justice begins. Rather, it assumes that a time before justice is the moment to put evil in the past. Merging examples from literature and history, Robert Meister confronts the problem of closure and the resolution of historical injustice. He boldly challenges the empty moral logic of never again or the theoretical reduction of evil to a cycle of violence and counterviolence, broken only once evil is remembered for what it was. Meister criticizes such methods for their deferral of justice and susceptibility to exploitation and elaborates the flawed moral logic of never again in relation to Auschwitz and its evolution into a twenty-first-century doctrine of the Responsibility to Protect.

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