

Inventing the Enemy

Inventing the Enemy uses stories of personal relationships to explore the behavior of ordinary people in five Moscow factories during Stalin's terror. Communist Party leaders targeted specific groups for arrest and strongly encouraged Soviet citizens and party members to take an active role in the terror by "unmasking the hidden enemy." In response to this call, a flood of accusations poured into the secret police (NKVD) and local party organizations. By 1937, every workplace was convulsed by hypervigilance, intense suspicion, and the hunt for hidden enemies. Forced to lie in order to protect loved ones, people faced terrible choices and dilemmas in their struggles to reconcile political imperatives with personal loyalties. Coworkers, spouses, friends, and relatives disavowed and denounced one another. The strategies that many adopted to protect themselves – including naming names, volunteering preemptive denunciations, and shifting blame – all helped to spread the terror. Drawing on formerly secret archival sources, *Inventing the Enemy* explores personal relationships and individual behaviors within a pervasive political culture based on fear and "enemy-hunting."

Wendy Z. Goldman is a professor of history at Carnegie Mellon University. She is the author of *Terror and Democracy in the Age of Stalin: The Social Dynamics of Repression* (Cambridge, 2007); *Women at the Gates: Gender and Industry in Stalin's Russia* (Cambridge, 2002); and *Women, the State and Revolution: Soviet Family Policy in Social Life, 1917–1936* (Cambridge, 1993); and a coeditor (with Donald Filtzer, Gijs Kessler, and Simon Pirani) of *A Dream Deferred: New Studies in Russian and Soviet Labour History* (2008).

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Inventing the Enemy: Denunciation and Terror in Stalin's Russia

Wendy Z. Goldman
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*This book is dedicated to my husband,
Marcus Rediker,
who seeks and loves the challenge of new realms*

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