

THE PREVENTION OF TORTURE

There is an urgent need to analyze and assess how we prevent torture against the background of a rigorous analysis of the factors that condition and sustain it. Drawing on rich empirical material from Sri Lanka and Nepal, *The Prevention of Torture: An Ecological Approach* interrogates the worlds that produce torture, in order to propose how to bring about systemic institutional and cultural change. Critics have decried human rights approaches' failure to attend to structural factors, but this book seeks to go beyond a "stance of criticism" to take up the positive project of reimagining human rights theory and practice. It discusses key debates in human rights and political theory, as well as the challenges that advocates face in translating situational analyses into real-world interventions. Danielle Celermajer develops a new, ecological framework for mapping the worlds that produce torture, thereby laying the foundations for developing effective and sustainable prevention strategies.

Danielle Celermajer is Professor of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Sydney. She received a grant from the European Union to establish a Masters of Human Rights and Democratization in the Asia Pacific and an EU grant to lead a multidisciplinary project on the prevention of torture. Her books include *Sins of the Nation and the Ritual of Apology* (Cambridge University Press, 2009), *Power, Judgment and Political Evil: Hannah Arendt's Promise* (2010) with Andrew Schaap and Vrasidas Karalis, and *A Cultural History of Law in the Modern Age* (forthcoming) with Richard Sherwin.

The Prevention of Torture

AN ECOLOGICAL APPROACH

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For Niusha and Krysha and the girls who did not come out

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Abbreviations

ACHR	Asian Centre for Human Rights
ANT	Actor–network theory
APF	Armed Police Force (Nepal)
APT	Association for the Prevention of Torture
CPT	European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
HIG	High-Value Detainee Interrogation Group
ICRC	International Commission of the Red Cross
ICTY	International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia
IDF	Israel Defense Forces
JVP	Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna
OPCAT	Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
NGO	Nongovernmental organization
NPM	National preventative mechanism
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
OIC	Officer in charge
RUC	Royal Ulster Constabulary
SOCO	Scene of crime officer
ToC	Theory of Change
UN	United Nations
UNCAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment