Memory and Migration in the Shadow of War

In an engaging and original contribution to the field of memory studies, Joy Damousi considers the enduring impact of war on family memory in the Greek diaspora. Focusing on Australia’s Greek immigrants in the aftermath of the Second World War and the Greek Civil War, the book explores the concept of remembrance within the larger context of migration to show how intergenerational experience of war and trauma transcend both place and nation. Drawing from the most recent research in memory, trauma and transnationalism, Memory and Migration in the Shadow of War deals with the continuities and discontinuities of war stories, assimilation in modern Australia, politics and activism, child migration and memories of mothers and children in war. Damousi sheds new light on aspects of forgotten memory and silence within families and communities, and in particular the ways in which past experience of violence and tragedy is both negotiated and processed.

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In recent years the field of modern history has been enriched by the exploration of two parallel histories. These are the social and cultural history of armed conflict, and the impact of military events on social and cultural history. 

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Memory and Migration in the Shadow of War

Australia’s Greek Immigrants after World War II and the Greek Civil War

Joy Damousi
For Evangelina Vinecombe and Jiajia Damousis
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This book is as much about the future as it is about the past. At its core it explores the past stories we choose to tell to future generations about war. I have dedicated it to my two young nieces – Evangelina Vinecombe and Jiajia Damousis – future custodians of past histories and present memories.
Abbreviations

ABB Australian Broadcasting Commission
ACISS Australian Council of International Social Service
ALP Australian Labor Party
ASIO Australian Security Intelligence Organisation
CPA Communist Party of Australia
CRDG Committee for the Restoration of Democracy in Greece
DSE Democratic Army of Greece
DP Displaced Persons
EAM National Liberation Front
ELAS National People’s Liberation Army
EYL Eureka Youth League
GNC Good Neighbour Council
ICEM Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration
IRO International Relief Organisation
KKE The Communist Party of Greece
ML Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales
NAA National Archives of Australia
NLA National Library of Australia
NSW New South Wales
SCF Save the Children Fund
SCIU Save the Children International Union
UN United Nations
UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific, Cultural Organisation
UNICEF United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund
UNRRA United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration
UNSCOB United Nations Special Committee on the Balkans
Material in this book has previously appeared in the following publications: