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RED SCARE

THE STATE'S INDIGENOUS TERRORIST



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The Red Scare

The State's Indigenous Terrorist

"From Elizabeth Warren to Standing Rock, Joanne Barker's brilliant *Red Scare* proves essential reading for those wanting to understand how Indianness continues to be reproduced for the US empire. The book trenchantly confronts some of the most pressing issues facing Indigenous peoples in North America and does so while highlighting the absolute necessity for the groundedness of radical Indigenous feminisms to account for possible sites of anticolonial transformation."—Jodi Byrd, author of *Transit of Empire: Indigenous Critiques of Colonialism*

"This is a truly excellent book of clarity and analytical boldness. It introduces Indigenous social justice and treaty-rights movements targeted by settler-state surveillance and repression to readers who may previously have known only of the NoDAPL campaigns. And it compellingly situates these in relation to gender and sexual violences, contemporary capitalist crisis, and environmental justice."—Alyosha Goldstein, author of *Poverty in Common: The Politics of Community Action during the American Century*

How the rhetoric of terrorism has been used against high-profile movements to justify the oppression and suppression of Indigenous activists.

New Indigenous movements are gaining traction in North America: the Missing and Murdered Women and Idle No More movements in Canada, and the Native Lives Matter and NoDAPL movements in the United States. These do not represent new demands for social justice and treaty rights, which Indigenous groups have sought for centuries. But owing to the extraordinary visibility of contemporary activism, Indigenous people have been newly cast as terrorists—a designation that justifies severe measures of policing, exploitation, and violence. *The Red Scare* investigates the intersectional scope of these four movements, and the broader context of the treatment of Indigenous social justice movements as threats to neoliberal and imperialist social orders.

In *The Red Scare*, Joanne Barker shows how US and Canadian leaders leverage the feardriven discourses of terrorism to allow for extreme responses to Indigenous activists, framing them as threats to social stability and national security. The alignment of Indigenous movements now with broader struggles against sexual, police, and environmental violence puts them at the forefront of new intersectional solidarities in prominent ways. The activist-as-terrorist framing is cropping up everywhere, but the historical and political complexities of Indigenous movements and state responses are unique. Indigenous criticisms of state policy, resource extraction and contamination, intense surveillance, and neoliberal values are met with outsized and shocking measures of militarized policing, environmental harm, and sexual violence. *The Red Scare* provides students and readers with a concise and thorough survey of these movements and their links to broader organizing; the common threads of historical violence against Indigenous people; and the relevant alternatives we can find in Indigenous forms of governance and relationality.

Joanne Barker (Lenape) is Professor of American Indian Studies at San Francisco State University. She is author of *Native Acts: Law, Recognition, and Cultural Authenticity* and editor of *Critically Sovereign: Indigenous Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies.*

208 pp. 5.5 x 8.25 9780520303188 \$18.95 | £15.99 Paper November 2021



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