From Witness to Perpetrator: The Active Role of Nazi Women in the Holocaust

A conversation with Prof. Wendy Lower of Claremont McKenna College & Prof. Adam Rovner of the University of Denver

“500,000 women had front-row seats to the Final Solution . . . and yet their presence, and their atrocities, have been largely ignored for the last 70 years” [LA Review of Books]. After WWII, many complicit women were excused for their roles entirely; lawyers argued, and judges agreed, that Nazi women could not be held accountable for the crimes of the men around them. In her important book, Prof. Wendy Lower (John K. Roth Professor of History and George R. Roberts Fellow and Director of Mgrublian Center for Human Rights; Claremont McKenna College) questions this historical narrative not only by uncovering historical details that have often been overlooked, but by inviting us to question the line between individuals and their societies, as well as the line between witnesses, bystanders, accomplices, and perpetrators: Aren’t Nazi women culpable for standing by as witnesses, taking lives, and serving as accomplices? Lower fills an historical gap by answering “yes” to this question.

“Genocide,” Lower argues, “is also women’s business.”

Join us for an in-depth conversation with Prof. Lower on these and other topics as we discuss her acclaimed book, Hitler’s Furies: German Women in the Nazi Killing Fields.

16th Annual Fred Marcus Memorial Holocaust Lecture

Sunday, November 11, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

Kosher dessert reception to follow • In partnership with the 11th Annual Neustadt JAAMM Festival

Elaine Wolf Theatre, MACC at the JCC, 350 S. Dahlia St., Denver, CO 80246

Tickets are $18; Free tickets available for students, educators & Holocaust survivors

For ticketing & other information, visit: http://www.du.edu/ahss/cjs/hai