

Civil obedience

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Résumé ou extrait : La 4e de couv. indique : "Since the fall of General Augusto Pinochet's dictatorship (1973-1990), Chilean society has shied away from the taboo subject of civilian complicity, preferring to pursue convictions of military perpetrators. But the torture, murders, deportations, and disappearances of tens of thousands of people in Chile were not carried out by the military alone; it required a vast civilian network of support. Some actively participated in the regime's massive violations of human rights for personal gain or from a sense of patriotic duty. Others supported Pinochet's neoliberal economic program while ignoring the crimes of that era. Michael J. Lazzara boldly argues that today's Chile is a product of both complicity and complacency. Combining historical analysis with deft literary, political, and cultural critique, he scrutinizes the post-Pinochet rationalizations made by politicians, artists, intellectuals, bystanders, former revolutionaries-turned-neoliberals, and common citizens. He looks beyond victims and perpetrators to unveil the ambiguous, ethically vexed realms of memory and experience that authoritarian regimes inevitably generate."

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