



States of Denial: Knowing about Atrocities and Suffering

Stanley Cohen

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Blocking out, turning a blind eye, shutting off, not wanting to know, wearing blinkers, seeing what we want to see ... these are all expressions of 'denial'. Alcoholics who refuse to recognize their condition, people who brush aside suspicions of their partner's infidelity, the wife who doesn't notice that her husband is abusing their daughter - are supposedly 'in denial'. Governments deny their responsibility for atrocities, and plan them to achieve 'maximum deniability'. Truth Commissions try to overcome the suppression and denial of past horrors. Bystander nations deny their responsibility to intervene.

Do these phenomena have anything in common? When we deny, are we aware of what we are doing or is this an unconscious defence mechanism to protect us from unwelcome truths? Can there be cultures of denial? How do organizations like Amnesty and Oxfam try to overcome the public's apparent indifference to distant suffering and cruelty? Is denial always so bad - or do we need positive illusions to retain our sanity?

States of Denial is the first comprehensive study of both the personal and political ways in which uncomfortable realities are avoided and evaded. It ranges from clinical studies of depression, to media images of suffering, to explanations of the 'passive bystander' and 'compassion fatigue'. The book shows how organized atrocities - the Holocaust and other genocides, torture, and political massacres - are denied by perpetrators and by bystanders, those who stand by and do nothing.

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Reading a reserve tends to be new life style in this particular era globalization. With reading you can get a lot of information which will give you benefit in your life. With book everyone in this world may share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. A lot of author can inspire all their reader with their story or maybe their experience. Not only the storyline that share in the textbooks. But also they write about the information about something that you need case in point. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your kids, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors in this world always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some research before they write with their book. One of them is this States of Denial: Knowing about Atrocities and Suffering.

Reinaldo Downs:

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? May be reading a book might be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the guide untitled States of Denial: Knowing about Atrocities and Suffering can be very good book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

Robert Hawkins:

In this particular era which is the greater particular person or who has ability in doing something more are more treasured than other. Do you want to become among it? It is just simple method to have that. What you should do is just spending your time little but quite enough to get a look at some books. One of many books in the top list in your reading list is usually States of Denial: Knowing about Atrocities and Suffering. This book that is qualified as The Hungry Inclines can get you closer in getting precious person. By looking up and review this book you can get many advantages.

Carolyn Treece:

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