

# Puppetmasters: The Political Use of Terrorism in Italy

Puppetmasters: The Political Use of Terrorism in Italy is a thought-provoking and deeply researched account of the use of terrorism as a tool for political manipulation in post-war Italy.



## Puppetmasters: The Political Use of Terrorism in Italy

by René Descartes

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 671 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting: Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 374 pages

X-Ray for textbooks : Enabled

Item Weight : 6.1 ounces

Dimensions : 4.96 x 0.59 x 8.15 inches



The book's author, John Dickie, is a professor of Italian history at University College London. He has spent many years researching the history of terrorism in Italy, and his book is the culmination of his work.

Dickie argues that terrorism in Italy was not simply a product of left-wing extremism. Rather, it was a tool that was used by a variety of political actors, including the state, the mafia, and right-wing extremist groups.

Dickie's book provides a detailed account of the various terrorist campaigns that have taken place in Italy since the end of World War II. He also examines the role that the Italian state has played in supporting and even directing these campaigns.

Puppetmasters is a fascinating and disturbing account of the dark side of Italian history. It is a must-read for anyone who is interested in the history of terrorism or in the history of Italy.

### **The Gladio Affair**

One of the most important chapters in Dickie's book is his discussion of the Gladio Affair. Gladio was a secret army that was created by the Italian government in the 1950s. The army's mission was to resist a possible Soviet invasion of Italy.

However, Gladio was also used to carry out terrorist attacks against left-wing groups in Italy. These attacks were designed to create a climate of fear and instability, which would make it easier for the government to crack down on dissent.

The Gladio Affair was a major scandal in Italy. It led to the resignation of the government and the imprisonment of several top government officials.

### **The Red Brigades**

Another important chapter in Dickie's book is his discussion of the Red Brigades. The Red Brigades were a left-wing terrorist group that was active in Italy in the 1970s and 1980s.

The Red Brigades were responsible for a number of high-profile assassinations, including the murder of former Prime Minister Aldo Moro.

Dickie argues that the Red Brigades were not simply a group of left-wing extremists. Rather, they were a tool that was used by the state to discredit the left and to justify the government's crackdown on dissent.

## **The Mafia**

Dickie also discusses the role that the Mafia has played in terrorism in Italy. The Mafia is a criminal organization that has been active in Italy for centuries.

In the post-war period, the Mafia has been involved in a number of terrorist attacks, including the bombing of the Bologna train station in 1980.

Dickie argues that the Mafia has used terrorism as a tool to intimidate the state and to protect its own interests.

*Puppetmasters* is a fascinating and disturbing account of the dark side of Italian history. It is a must-read for anyone who is interested in the history of terrorism or in the history of Italy.

Dickie's book is a reminder that terrorism is not simply a product of left-wing extremism. Rather, it is a tool that can be used by a variety of political actors, including the state, the mafia, and right-wing extremist groups.

*Puppetmasters* is a timely and important book. It is a book that should be read by anyone who is concerned about the threat of terrorism.



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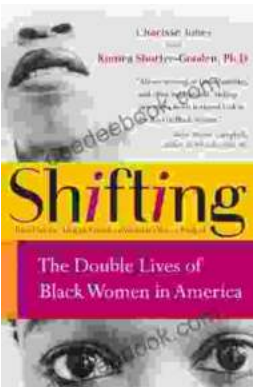
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