

Staging Philanthropy

Social History, Popular Culture, and Politics in Germany

Geoff Eley, Series Editor

*Staging Philanthropy: Patriotic Women and the National Imagination in
Dynastic Germany, 1813–1916*, Jean H. Quataert

*Truth to Tell: German Women's Autobiographies and Turn-of-the-Century
Culture*, Katharina Gerstenberger

*The "Goldhagen Effect": History, Memory, Nazism—Facing the German
Past*, Geoff Eley, editor

Shifting Memories: The Nazi Past in the New Germany, Klaus Neumann

Saxony in German History: Culture, Society, and Politics, 1830–1933,
James Retallack, editor

*Little Tools of Knowledge: Historical Essays on Academic and Bureaucratic
Practices*, Peter Becker and William Clark, editors

*Public Spheres, Public Mores, and Democracy: Hamburg and Stockholm,
1870–1914*, Madeleine Hurd

*Making Security Social: Disability, Insurance, and the Birth of the Social
Entitlement State in Germany*, Greg Eghigian

*The German Problem Transformed: Institutions, Politics, and Foreign
Policy, 1945–1995*, Thomas Banchoff

*Building the East German Myth: Historical Mythology and Youth
Propaganda in the German Democratic Republic, 1945–1989*,
Alan L. Nothnagle

Mobility and Modernity: Migration in Germany, 1820–1989,
Steve Hochstadt

*Triumph of the Fatherland: German Unification and the Marginalization
of Women*, Brigitte Young

*Framed Visions: Popular Culture, Americanization, and the Contemporary
German and Austrian Imagination*, Gerd Gemünden

The Imperialist Imagination: German Colonialism and Its Legacy,
Sara Friedrichsmeyer, Sara Lennox, and Susanne Zantop, editors

*Contested City: Municipal Politics and the Rise of Nazism in Altona,
1917–1937*, Anthony McElligott

*Catholicism, Political Culture, and the Countryside: A Social History of the
Nazi Party in South Germany*, Oded Heilbrunner

A User's Guide to German Cultural Studies, Scott Denham, Irene Kacandes,
and Jonathan Petropoulos, editors

(continued on last page)

Staging Philanthropy

Patriotic Women and the National
Imagination in Dynastic Germany,
1813–1916

Jean H. Quataert

Ann Arbor

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN PRESS

Copyright © by the University of Michigan 2001

All rights reserved

Published in the United States of America by

The University of Michigan Press

Manufactured in the United States of America

⊗ Printed on acid-free paper

2004 2003 2002 2001 4 3 2 1

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, or otherwise, without the written permission of the publisher.

A CIP catalog record for this book is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Quataert, Jean H. (Jean Helen), 1945–

Staging philanthropy : patriotic women and the national imagination in dynastic Germany, 1813–1916 / Jean H. Quataert.

p. cm. — (Social history, popular culture, and politics in Germany)

ISBN 0-472-11171-X

1. Women in charitable work—Germany—History. 2. Women philanthropists—Germany—History. 3. Patriotism—Germany—History. 4. Germany—Politics and government. I. Title. II. Series.

HV541 .Q38 2001

361.7'082'0943—dc21

00-010714

In Memory of
Nancy Hannah (1933–1997)
and to
Sharon Levit,
for opening new vistas on the past and future

Contents

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	ix
<i>List of Tables</i>	xi
<i>Preface</i>	xiii
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xv
Introduction: Dynastic Legitimacy and Women's Philanthropy in German State and Nation Building	1
Chapter 1. The <i>Landesmutter</i> and Philanthropic Practices in the New German Dynastic States, 1813–1848	21
Chapter 2. The Politics of Philanthropy under Dynastic Patronage, 1848 to 1870–71	54
Chapter 3. Civic Voluntarism and Gift Giving in the “Caring” State	90
Chapter 4. Cultural Performances in the Struggle over National Community after 1871	133
Chapter 5. Gendered Medical War Services in the “Curing” State	177
Chapter 6. Mobilizing Social Memory: Gendered Images of War and Sacrifice	217
Chapter 7. Testing Patriotic Alliances, 1913–1916	251
Conclusion: A Gendered Reading of Patriotism and Power	293
<i>Bibliographical Essay</i>	305
<i>Index</i>	309

Illustrations

Figures

1. The Empress Augusta Monument in Koblenz	2
2. Lottery to support the Queen Carola Foundation, 1915	108
3. Red Cross Section for Mother and Infant Care call for support, 1917	208
4. Red Cross solicitation of women's hair	259
5. "Thanks of kaiser and people to army and navy"	277
6. Red Cross collection to benefit volunteer nurses, 1914	278
7. "Commune with our thinkers and poets!"	280
8. Call for donation of jams and preserves on the empress's birthday, 1915	281
9. "Gold smashes iron"	285
10. "In our children lies Germany's future"	289

Maps

1. Women's Associations in the Germanic Confederation, 1844	41
2. State Associations of the Red Cross in Imperial Germany, 1871–1918	132

Tables

1. Social Backgrounds of Founding Members of Women's Associations, 1859–68	69
2. Development of Women's Associations in Prussia, Baden, and Bavaria in Select Years, 1860–1916	106
3. Baden Leadership of the Women's and Men's Associations of the Red Cross, 1872–73	115
4. Participation in German Red Cross Organizations, 1912	184
5. Average Annual Salary of Baden Red Cross Nurses and Other Female Occupations in Select Years, 1874–1910	200
6. Religious Affiliation and Social Background of Nurses' Aides Studying in Baden, 1906–13	203

Preface

This book grows out of my own engagement with issues of war and national consensus, which was rekindled during the Gulf War in the early 1990s. With the onset of hostilities, I observed the silencing of debate in the proliferation of “yellow ribbons” and, in Vestal, my small town in upstate New York, experienced at firsthand efforts at consensus building through parades and ceremonies. And yet these activities coexisted uneasily with deep ambivalences, stirred by historical memory, about the human costs of war. Serendipitously, at that moment my friends at the German Historical Institute—Stig Förster and Roger Chickering—asked if I would join an ongoing comparative research project on “total war,” starting with the mid-nineteenth-century American Civil War and German Wars of Unification. It seemed a way to combine personal and professional passions. I could turn my feminist commitments to the interrelationship between nationalism, war, and state building and rework these “traditional” themes in history through the lens of women’s lives and gender analysis. I wanted to understand how identification with such abstract notions as “state,” “nation,” and “national community” is made and contested in daily life.

Over the years, I have profited from the support of friends and colleagues. I am pleased to be able to thank them here. Richard Trexler has been an inspiration, not only for his own work on civic rituals, but also for our ongoing exchange of ideas concerning community solidarity, women, and sacrifice, even if we part company over agency. He encouraged my interest in ritual behavior as integral to power and politics. Howard Brown offered a very spirited reading of the introduction and conclusion. Stig Förster, James Retallack, George Stein, and Deborah Cohen read chunks of the manuscript and offered very useful comments for revision. I also want to thank John Röhl for helpful bibliographical suggestions at key moments of revision. Molly O’Donnell helped broaden my perspective on the colonial context, as did Kenneth Orosz. Specific chapters were also

read by Kevin Slick, Jennifer Evans, and other graduate students in history, particularly Dianne Criswell, Morgana Kellythorne, Rebecca Willis, Matthew Lungerhausen, and Ronald Applegate.

I presented parts of the argument at various German Historical Institute conferences, which were invaluable for broadening and deepening my understanding of the changing relationship between civilian and soldier, home front and battlefield in the nineteenth century. I took my case as well to Rutgers, Harvard, and Emory universities. I received indispensable cooperation from the staffs at the Generallandesarchiv, Karlsruhe, the Landeshauptarchiv, Koblenz, as well as the Stadtarchiv, the Geheimes Staatsarchiv Preussischer Kulturbesitz, and the Staatsbibliothek in Berlin, and also from the staff of the Hoover Library and its archives. I want to acknowledge as well their long-distance help in sending me materials after I returned from my research trips. In addition, the Interlibrary Loan Service staff members at Binghamton University tracked down countless volumes of printed materials and newspapers, and their efforts are truly appreciated.

The artistic eye of Michael Tanzer (1941–2000) helped me analyze form, design, and color in the Red Cross posters included in this work. I am grateful for the impact he had on this book and I will deeply miss his always challenging perspectives on the world. I also want to thank Kenneth Orosz for helping me with the tables, Costa Sakellariou for the maps, and Nadir Özbek for the index. The series editor, Geoff Eley, whose insights into German nationalism have shaped my own approach, read the manuscript with great attention; he encouraged a more equitable balance between “anthropology” and “sociology” as methods. I appreciate these suggestions and hope I have done them justice.

As always, my husband, Donald Quataert, lived through all the phases and stages of the completion of this book. He remains, variously, perceptive, helpful, calming, and patient.

JHQ
Vestal, New York
December 2000

Abbreviations

DRK	<i>Das Deutsche Rote Kreuz. Entstehung, Entwicklung und Leistungen der Vereinsorganisation seit Abschluss der Genfer Convention i.J. 1864.</i> Vol. 1, <i>Centralkomitee der Deutschen Vereine vom Roten Kreuz. Landesvereine vom Roten Kreuz.</i> Vol. 2, <i>Frauen-Hilfs-und Pflege-Vereine unter dem Roten Kreuz.</i> Vol. 3, <i>Kranken-und Mutterhäuser vom Roten Kreuz.</i> Ed. Dr. Kimmle. Berlin, 1910.
GK	Generallandesarchiv, Karlsruhe
GSPK	Geheimes Staatsarchiv Preussischer Kulturbesitz, Dahlem, Königliches Geheimes Civil-Cabinet, I, HA, Rep. 89
HIA	Poster Collection, Hoover Institution Archives, Stanford, California
LK	Landeshauptarchiv, Koblenz
KZ	<i>Neue Preussische Kreuz-Zeitung</i>
Mitteilungen	Mitteilungen des Badischen Landesvereins vom Roten Kreuz (Baden state Red Cross communiqués)
VZ	<i>Vossische Zeitung. Königlich privilegirte Berlinische Zeitung von Staats-und gelehrten Sachen.</i>

