



### ISIS and the Pornography of Violence

*By Simon Cottee*

**Pub Date:** 30 May 2019  
**Binding:** Hardback  
**Price:** £80.00 / \$125.00  
**ISBN:** 9781783089659

**Extent:** 186 pages  
**Size:** 153 x 229 mm /  
 6 x 9 inches

**BISAC CATEGORY:** SOCIAL SCIENCE / General SOCIAL SCIENCE / Violence in Society, POLITICAL SCIENCE / Terrorism

**BISAC CODE:** SOC000000  
**BIC CODE:** JFDT

**RIGHTS**  
**Exclusive:** WORLD

### A collection of iconoclastic essays on ISIS

“ISIS and the Pornography of Violence is a compilation of Simon Cottee’s extensive repertoire of stories and reporting on ISIS from 2014 to 2018, with particular focus on ISIS videos, motivations and propaganda. It challenges well-worn concepts and provides a breath of fresh air to the study of ISIS terrorism.”

—Mia Bloom, Professor of Communication and Middle East Studies, Georgia State University, USA

‘ISIS and the Pornography of Violence’ is a collection of iconoclastic essays on ISIS, spanning the four-year period from its ascendancy in late 2014 to its demise in early 2018. From a trenchant critique of the infantilization of jihadists to a probing examination of the parallels between gonzo porn and ISIS beheading videos, the pieces collected in this volume challenge conventional ways of thinking about ISIS and the roots of its appeal. Simon Cottee’s core argument is that Western ISIS recruits, far from being brainwashed or “vulnerable” dupes, actively responded to the group’s promise of redemptive violence and self-sacrifice to a total cause.

### Contents

Foreword; 1. Theorizing ISIS: The Meaning and Appeal of Jihadist Violence; 2. How Not to Think about ISIS; 3. Watching ISIS: The Theatre of Horror Credits; Notes; Index.

### About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Simon Cottee is a senior lecturer in criminology at the University of Kent, UK, and a contributing writer for The Atlantic. He is the author of *The Apostates: When Muslims Leave Islam* (2015) and the coeditor of *Christopher Hitchens and His Critics: Terror, Iraq, and the Left* (2008). Cottee is a regular contributor to the *New York Times*, *Foreign Policy*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *National Post* and *Vice*, and a contributing editor of the journal, *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*.

Ordering in North America	Ordering in the UK/Rest of the World	Ordering in Australia
Books International	NBN International	NewSouth Books
P.O. Box 605, Herndon, VA	Airport Business Centre, 10 Thornbury Road	Rosie Marson, UNSW Sydney
20172-0605 United States	Plymouth, PL6 7PP	NSW 2052, Australia
Tel: +1 703 661 1570   Fax: +1 703 661 1501	Tel: 01752 202301   Fax: 01752 202333	Tel: +61 (02) 8778 9999   Fax: +61 (02) 8778 9944
bimail@presswarehouse.com	orders@nbninternational.com	orders@tldistribution.com.au

75-76 Blackfriars Road | London SE1 8HA | United Kingdom | Tel: +44 (0)20 7401 4200 | Fax: +44 (0)20 7401 4225  
 244 Madison Ave. #116 | New York | NY 10016 | United States | Tel: +1 646 736 7908 | Fax: +1 646 839 2934  
 info@anthempres.com | sales@anthempres.com | publicity@anthempres.com | www.anthempres.com