

Contents



List of Illustrations	vii
Preface <i>Philip Dwyer and Mark S. Micale</i>	viii
Introduction History, Violence, and Steven Pinker <i>Mark S. Micale and Philip Dwyer</i>	1
Chapter 1 The Past as a Foreign Country: Bioarchaeological Perspectives on Pinker's "Prehistoric Anarchy" <i>Linda Fibiger</i>	6
Chapter 2 Were There Better Angels of a Classical Greek Nature? Violence in Classical Athens <i>Matthew Trundle</i>	17
Chapter 3 Getting Medieval on Steven Pinker: Violence and Medieval England <i>Sara M. Butler</i>	29
Chapter 4 The Complexity of History: Russia and Steven Pinker's Thesis <i>Nancy Shields Kollmann</i>	41

Chapter 5

Whitewashing History:

Pinker's (Mis)Representation of the Enlightenment and Violence

54

Philip Dwyer

Chapter 6

Assessing Violence in the Modern World

66

Richard Bessel

Chapter 7

The "Moral Effect" of Legalized Lawlessness:

Violence in Britain's Twentieth-Century Empire

78

Caroline Elkins

Chapter 8

Does *Better Angels of Our Nature* Hold Up as History?

91

Randolph Roth

Chapter 9

The Rise and Rise of Sexual Violence

104

Joanna Bourke

Chapter 10

The Inner Demons of *The Better Angels of Our Nature*

117

Daniel Lord Smail

Chapter 11

What Pinker Leaves Out

128

Mark S. Micale

Index

140