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Mr Edwin Black
Washington D.C.

Retraction

17.03.2021

Beginning in 2009, I published results of a Europe-wide research project into Nazi prisoner Hollerith punch cards. In various Internet forums, reports, media statements, and publications I wrote: "Edwin Black devotes two chapters of his book "IBM and the Holocaust" to the WVHA prisoner index. However, it must be expressly pointed out here that almost all of his information and interpretations are incorrect and manipulative and absolutely unusable for scientific purposes." Upon reflection, I retract the entire statement.

I do not now, nor did I ever have, evidence that Edwin Black had been "manipulative" with his work. In key writings, the footnote for this statement was merely to his book generally. I never contacted Edwin Black to check on his information or those of the many historians and researchers who worked with him.

As for the statement "absolutely unusable for scientific purposes," I acknowledge that he has lectured at this topic at many universities and museums, including academic departments at Harvard University, Wayne State University Department of History, Museum of Tolerance in Mexico City, University of Texas at Dallas Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum, Florida State University College of Law, Johns Hopkins University, Florida International University Distinguished Lecture Series, Bar Ilan University, Southern Methodist University Embrey Human Rights Program, Monash University Faculty of Information Technology in Sydney, and the European Parliament, to name a few.

I regret the statements and convey this sentiment to all relied on those statements.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'A' followed by a long horizontal line that ends in a small hook.

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