

Rhetorics, Violence & Evil: Connections, Reflections & Responses

Hunsaker Student Center
University of Redlands, Redlands, CA
23-24 January, 2004.

This conference is dedicated to dialogues (a dialogue is a conversation with a center) over the relationships between rhetorics, violence and evil. On the one hand, throughout its history rhetoric has often been accused of manipulation, of amoral, if not immoral, practices. On the other hand, violence and evil have their own rhetorical forms of legitimation and presentation. In this conference we explore these connections with respect to a wide variety of examples: from literature, popular culture, history, theory. The purpose of this conference is not only to identify connections but also to reflect upon them and to consider possible responses to them.

Presentations will be limited to a ten-minute summary of the paper*, with up to 45 minutes dedicated to dialogue. The purpose of the conference is to dialogue with each other concerning issues raised by papers, not necessarily to defend or question the thesis of each paper. Presenters, respondents, and audience are asked to contribute to enriching an environment of exploration and insight.**

The conference will held in the Bulldog and Och Tamale Rooms on the second floor of the Hunsaker Student Center in the heart of the University of Redlands campus. Parking is available in the parking lot behind the Memorial Chapel along Brockton Avenue, or in the large lot along Grove Avenue, between Brockton and Colton Avenues. The Hunsaker Center is on the west side of the quad in front of Armacost Library.

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Schedule of Presentations

Friday, January 23

- 12:45 – 1:15 PM Welcome, Introductions, and Logistics
- 1:15 – 2:15 PM Barry Mauer, Asst. Prof. of English, UCF Orlando
“Speaking Freely in a Time of War.”
John Walsh, Chaplain, University of Redlands, respondent
- 2:15 – 3:15 PM Todd Penner, Austin College and Caroline Stichele, University of Amsterdam
“Tyranny of the Martyr Rhetoric: Biblical Structures of Violence in the Rhetoric of Victimization in the Work of Lars von Trier.”
- 3:15 – 3:30 PM Break
- 3:30 – 4:30 PM Gerrie Snyman, Prof. of OT, University of South Africa
“Fear, Violence and Racism: Can Religion Help Us Outlive the Past in South Africa?”
- 4:30 – 5:00 PM Overview, Reflections and Responses: A Time for Community Discussion
- 6:00 PM Dinner for Participants (Presenters and Respondents)

Schedule of Presentations (cont.)

Saturday, January 24

- 8:45 – 9:00 AM Gathering and Logistics
- 9:00 – 10:00 AM Greg Bloomquist, Prof. of NT, St. Paul University
“Rhetorical Strategies for ‘Holy War’ in Some Second Temple Sacred Texts: Overview, Analysis and Implications.”
- 10:00 – 11:00 AM Joe Marchal, Graduate Theological Union
“Military Rhetorics in Paul’s Letter to the Philippians: A Feminist Analysis of the Rhetorics of Scholarship, Philippians, and Current Contexts.”
Leslie Hayes, Assistant Director, IAC, Claremont, respondent
- 11:00 – 11:15 AM Break
- 11:15 – 12:15 PM Kathleen Kennedy, Assoc. Prof. of History, Western Washington State
“Bodily Pain and Nation Making: Catholics and Indians in the Protestant Historical Imagination.”
- 12:15 – 1:30 PM Lunch Break
- 1:30 – 2:30 PM Peter Steeves, Assoc. Prof. of Philosophy, De Paul University
“Coming Heavy: The Sopranos, Communitarianism and the Violence of Identity.”
Alan Van Wyck, Claremont Graduate School, respondent
- 2:30 – 3:30 PM Pablo Muchnik, Asst. Prof. of Philosophy, Siena College
“Fragmented Will: Kant on Evil”
John Sweeney, Center for Process Studies, respondent
- 3:30 – 4:00 PM Overview, Reflections and Responses: A Time for Community Discussion

*Copies of papers can be found at <http://www.ars-rhetorica.net>

**Formal responses will be made for some of the papers.