



# Taking Sides, or what critical theory can (still) do

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28. Juni 2018

Terrakotta, Luisenstr. 9, 18:00 Uhr

**Abstract:**

Taking sides raises the questions of how bodies come to inhabit and materialize space, who is fighting whom and why, whose side are we on, what other sides are put aside or left out, from which place and in which epistemic and political framework we take sides. In other words, taking sides involves becoming situated in space and time through the collective work of always figuring out what's at stake. In this paper, I will take the opportunity of theorizing the question of taking sides to think again about critique and critical theory. My wager is to propel a reflection on the question of what critical theory can do in these times of ongoing crises. Criticality involves the ex-centric and dispossessed structure of the subject vis-à-vis the conditions of its emergence, which has thoroughgoing implications for situated epistemologies and resistances-to-come. And so I ask: how can we rethink the political implications of crisis/critique/criticality in instating a possibility for decolonial, counter-nationalist, feminist/queer, anti-fascist social and political life in our times.

Attendance is free, but registration is required.

**International Conference:**

Taking Sides. Theories, Practices, Cultures of Participation in Dissent

**Organization:**

DFG-Research Unit „Media and Participation“, University of Konstanz

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