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The Inner Voice: Minority Presence and Representation

Why was the Orlando attack described as an attack against all Americans? Why was the “black lives matter” movement answered with the response that “all lives matter?” A minority presence, as such, disrupts social order. When minorities emerge in the public space, that is to say when they appear there without being invited or being enjoined to appear there, politics can no longer be dictated by a simple temporality, to the rhythm of institutional and partisan rules. To the extent that they are raised, educated and socialized in majority institutions, minorities’ inner voice is at odds with the dominant voice. The principle of representation for minorities always carries with it this split in the consciousness of self. This paper will explore how we could understand justice in terms of this double-voiced identity rather than in terms of delegation and erasure.