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Biopolitics, Desire, and Resistance: A Sociological Evaluation on Jean Genet's The Thief's Journal

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Abstract

This study aims to conduct a biopolitical analysis of emotions, desires, and forms of resistance through a work of art. In this context, it tries to reveal how desires and forms of feeling are transformed into a form of resistance in Jean Genet's novel *The Thief's Journal*. The reason for selecting Jean Genet's novel *The Thief's Journal* as the data to be analyzed is that Genet, along with biographical elements, effectively conveys the worlds of meaning, emotions, and desires of marginalized bodies. In addition, the study aims to examine the relationship between the aesthetic and the ethical, and in this regard, to create a relational narrative of art and the sociology of emotions. In this study, which employs qualitative research methods, a case study design was used and content analysis was adopted as the data analysis technique. The findings were grouped under various themes and sub-themes and categorized into codes. As a result of the analysis, the themes of "Desires and Emotions" and "Biopolitics, Art, and Resistance" were created and the codes were classified under various categories. Based on these findings, it was concluded that emotions, forms of feeling, and desires, when combined with the aesthetic, can create a potential for resistance.

Keywords

Biopolitics, Art, Desire, Resistance, Jean Genet.

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