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Martin Meyrath: SUPERAUSTRIAN. The construction of own and alien masculinities in the song „Supertuerke“

Keywords: Cultural Studies, Islamophobia, Masculinities, Popular Culture, Racism

The paper deals with racial stereotyping as a means of constructing masculinities of oneself and of others as aliens in the song „Supertuerke“ by the Austrian band Erste Allgemeine Verunsicherung. The author argues that the specific islamophobic racism in question is, on the one hand, closely connected to current political discourses and, on the other, falls back to an extensive arsenal of racist narratives. In the process, the author illuminates the alliance of racism and heterosexism and the relevance of the category of class, with the aim of enabling a better understanding of the medially reproduced exclusory ideology.

Petra Klug: Frames of Culturalism – Hostility against Islam, Homophobia and Judith Butler

Keywords: Judith Butler, Christopher Street Day, Racism, Islamophobia, Homophobia, Culturalism, secular

Judith Butler is considered the founder of Gender Studies and one of the most influential contemporary philosophers. She triggered an intense discussion about whether it is right to use the issues of women's rights and gay rights as arguments against immigration from Muslim countries, with her book "Frames of War" and her refusal to accept the Civil Courage Prize awarded by the Christopher Street Day (CSD) committee. According to Butler, Western societies object to the immigration of certain groups of people based on the alleged need to protect freedom of sexuality – implying that such immigrants are more homophobic than the 'majority'. This phenomenon is also called "homonationalism" and Butler argues that it is simply anti-Muslim racism. The article explains how this argument works, describing the discussion before the CSD and analysing the implications of her position. It is worth noting that even Butler's criticism of this tendency to play off minority groups against each other sometimes follows the same culturalistic logic it is grounded upon.

Astrid Mattes: Between Admiration and Dismay - The Austrian Media Coverage of the Swiss Ban of Minarets

Keywords: Islamophobia, Swiss Ban of Minarets, Media Analysis, Critical Discourse Analysis, Austrian print media

In the past several years the manner of dealing with the muslim minority in Austria has become one of the most polarizing topics in domestic politics. Beside from right-wing parties, that convey an image of disparity and negative attribution concerning Islam and Muslims, the media has significant influence in the hegemonic discourse and therefore on the prevailing picture of Islam in society. When Switzerland passed an amendment to the constitution that banned the building of minarets, through popular referendum on 29th of November 2009, this sparked a debate regarding religious freedom, direct democracy and integration in the Austrian media. This act in Swiss politics teamed with the coverage and reactions of Austrian media creates an understanding of how Islam and the Muslim minority in Austria are portrayed. Similar patterns in the handling of Islam and the Muslim population could be observed throughout the most important Austrian print media, which are made disclosed using the Critical Discourse Analysis of the “Duisburger Schule“, the pivotal question of the analysis being, whether these patterns are to be considered islamophobic.

Abdel-Hafiez Massud: On the linguistical realisation of perceptions on Muslims in the German News Magazine DER SPIEGEL

Keywords: international news, stereotypes, prejudices, integration, security, peace

Each communication does not only have goals and participants, but also interpersonal presuppositions. Mass media switch not only pure information and facts, but also evaluations. This contribution concentrates on the language usage of the news magazine DER SPIEGEL to express the imagination about the others, here the Muslims, at a very sensitive time.

Doris Angst: Freedom of speech in anti-Muslim talks? The debate on the anti-minaret-poster in Switzerland.

Keywords: Anti-Muslimism, minarets, plebiscite, human rights, racial discrimination, religious freedom

The Swiss plebiscite on the ban on minarets of November 30, 2009, has been interpreted as a turning point in the relation between the majority and the Muslim minority of this country. This article sheds light on the Islamophobic attitudes that influenced the outcome of this vote. Of particular interest is the poster published by the committee promoting the initiative against minarets. It shows rocket-like minarets piercing the Swiss national flag, in the foreground a fully veiled woman in black. A public dispute on the weighing of interests between the two fundamental rights freedom of expression and the interdiction of racial discrimination as well as, generally, on the observance of obligations of international law sprang up. In the aftermath of the plebiscite, ultra-rightwing movements in several European countries copied and adapted the poster drawing to serve their own needs. Subsequently, a court in Marseille banned the poster published by the Front national on the grounds of racial discrimination and of undue influence on youth.

Farid Hafez: From „Verjudung“ to „Islamist party“. New dimensions of islamophobic discourse strategies of the right-wing populist Freedom Party of Austria in the Viennese election campaign 2010

Keywords: Islamophobic populism – anti-Semitism – anti-society – Islamist party – dehumanization

The article „From ‘Verjudung’ to ‘Islamist party’” deals with new dimensions of Islamophobic propaganda that were used during the election campaign for the Viennese parliament. The right-wing populist Freedom Party of Austria (FPÖ) makes more and more use of Islamophobia in regional as well as national election campaigns since 2004. The Viennese elections have shown that Islamophobia was used in a more and more radical way than in the past. These new transformations and dimensions of Islamophobia are dealt with through analyzing publications, press releases and the media-work of the FPÖ. The topos of “Social democrats as an Islamist party” has a significant historical notion when looking back to the discourse of the “Verjudung” of Socialism/Social Democratic Party. We can observe a personification of the enemy identified in Muslim people within the Social Democrats. New notions of Islamophobic terminology are created and discussed in this article.

Philipp Becher: Islam as a concept of enemy in new rightist periodicals.
Blueprints of extreme rightist Islamophobia in „Europa vorn“ and „Signal“

Keywords: New Right, Islam as a concept of enemy, Journalism, „pro“-movement, Group-focused Humanophobia

The election of the state parliament of Nordrhein-Westfalen on May 9th 2010 as well as the local municipal elections in August 2009 have shown that the strategy of the extreme rightist “pro”-movement has been proven to be successful on a relative low but constant level. In addition to the analysis of the parliamentary work of “pro”, a research on the ideological background of that anti-Islamic populist movement could be seen as a necessary contribution to the explanation of the phenomenon. By means of a qualitative content analysis according to Mayring an examination and analysis critical of ideology of the theoretical periodicals “Europa vorn” and “Signal”, edited by Manfred Rouhs, one of the main exponents of the “pro”-movement, shall be performed. In a sample period covering the years 1989 until 1999 the profile of the periodical shall be exposed and, referring to Reinhard Opitz, be classified into the extreme rightist trend of development known as “New Right”. The focus lies on the question of the construction of Islam as a concept of enemy – a concept which would approximately one decade later be a vehicle for “group-focused Humanophobia” used by the extreme right.