

# **JUSTICE, LOVE AND PATRIOTISM**

Dangerous Liaisons

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- **Questions AML: can we distinguish Patriotism from Nationalism? Can searching for our roots help us?**
- **My contribution: do we need 'patriotism' in our liberal democracies? How do universal justice and particular love relate to each other? Where lies the danger for a soldier?**

## ***I. My own roots***

- ***The morality of 'no more heroes':  
revulsive humanism, admiring  
humanism, militant humanism***
- ***The 'heroes of retreat'  
(Enzensberger)***
- ***No 'Gott mit uns' anymore***

**II**

- ***Patriotism in contemporary Political Philosophy***
- ***Not only democratic legitimacy, but also unity***
- ***Pre-political and political patriotism***
- ***Sovereignty of the people***
- ***Minorities must be heard***
- ***The slide from patriotism in nationalism***

### ***III Love and Justice (Paul Kahn)***

- **Justice as the realization of practical reason**
- **Love: the experience of a world as valuable in and of itself**
- **Sacrifice: the transformation of my body into an expression of some ultimate meaning**

- **1. *Love reinforces justice and vice versa***
- **Pro patria mori**
- **‘Worshipping new Gods’  
(revolution)**
  
- **2. *Love against law***
- **Prototype: Antigone**
- **Actualization: Guantanamo Bay**
- **The Roman Catholic response  
(Spaemann)**
- **Political and non-political  
fundamentalism**

- **3. *Law against love: the expansion of reasonable justice***
- **On our way to a just world without war and sacrifice?**
- **The liberal ‘art of separation’ (M. Walzer)**
- **The ‘new man’?**
- **Criminalizing enmity (C.Schmitt)**
- **The Roman Catholic response**

- **4. *Grateful love transcends the borders of justice***
- **I did not choose my wife on the basis of justice**
- **‘The object of our love links us to the macrocosm’**
- **we will always experience discomfort with ordinary politics**
- **Conclusion: we can distinguish nationalism from patriotism.**
- **But: sympathy cannot be our only virtue.**