

Tuesday December 10, 2019, 19h

Less than human: politics of dignity, Enlightenment and colonial strategies (in English)

Mathieu Charles, Minderhedenforum

What is dignity? A look at dignity as a tool for dehumanization and othering of different groups in relation to their economic, political, geographical, religious and etno-racial status.

While there is no universal concept of human dignity, Western cultures propagate a universal human dignity taken from the Enlightenment values.

It's often being used as a prerequisite for integration and assimilation politics in Western societies and as measuring stick for the level of civilized (or barbaric) countries and peoples.

The presentation will attempt to analyze and deconstruct the illusion of the Western concept of dignity.