



ANTIGONE VERSUS OEDIPUS? FEMINIST THEORY AND THE TURN TO ANTIGONE

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Honig looks at the impact on feminist theory of the turn to Antigone in the latter half of the 20th Century and the early 21st Century. She argues that “Antigone” – turned to by feminists in quest of a radical or dissident politics – ultimately serves as a vehicle of humanism or maternalism that is more ethical than political, opposed to sovereignty as such, rather than committed to its enlistment or radicalization for democratic purposes. Must all politics of lamentation slide into lamentations of politics? Is there something about the classical figure of Antigone that lures admirers into a politics of maternal lament or humanist grievability? Honig also considers the work of Douglas Crimp and the politics of various death practices, including the AIDS Names Project Quilt.