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The Embodiment of the Social through Violence

Violence is a moral act and as such it is media of communication. Through violence embodied actors make explicit, 1st whose acts and expectations count, and 2nd which expectations should not be changed, although they have been violated. Herewith violence makes explicit the borders of the social world. It delineates the circle of morally relevant actors, who can violate effectively normative expectations. Herewith violence makes explicit the normative structure of a society - its law. Nevertheless, the duty to follow its violent law may end up in self-destruction. For example: The duty to execute blood vendetta may lead to vicious circle of mutual killings, which extinguish the involved groups.

Therefore violence has to be channelled and restricted. This leads to different societal orders of legitimisation. As a hypothesis the talk describes three orders of channelling (and restricting violence): The order of dividualizing sociation, the order of individualizing sociation and the order of individualizing pluri-sociation.