

1

STOLEN WITTGENSTEIN

Wovon man
nicht sprechen
kann,
darüber
muß man
schweigen.

6.522

Silence
is not
emptiness.
It is
resistance.

FENCING THE MYSTIC
AT THE EDGE OF LOGIC

THEY COULDN'T
USE HIM.
SO THEY
FENCED
HIM IN.

Philosophy's
bed boy.
Philosophy's
patron saint.
Philosophy's
prisoner.

QUEER.
MYSTICAL.
ECCENTRIC.
ANTI-ACADEMIC.
SCHOOLTEACHER.
SOLDIER.
WORKER.
RICH KID.
REJECTOR.
TRUTH ADDICT.
NOT PROF.

The world
is not all
the case.

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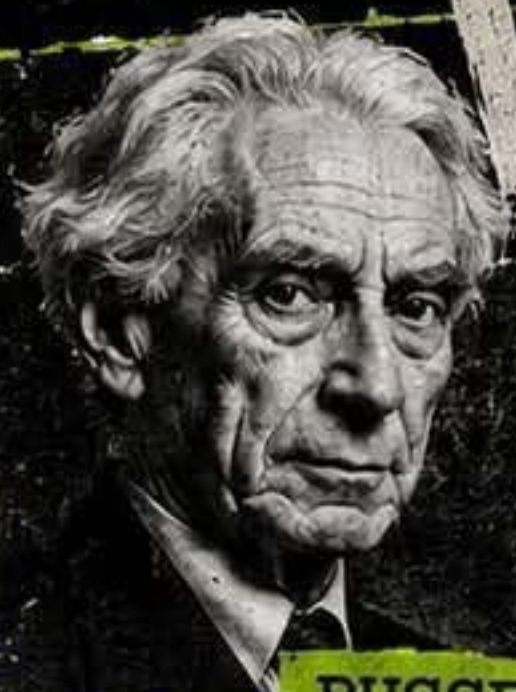
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2

FENCING WITTGENSTEIN



RUSSELL

THEY CAPTURED A WILD,
MYSTICAL, QUEER,
ECCENTRIC,
ANTI-ACADEMIC
THINKER...

They didn't debate
him into silence.
They built a fence.



PIPE

GAY-CODED.
NEURODIVERGENT?
AUTISTIC?
MYSTICAL.
RADICAL.
ANTI-PROFESSIONAL.
TEACHER,
NOT PROFESSOR.

Inside:
problems
logic
language-games
analysis
use
normality

NO GATEKEEPERS.
ONLY DOORS.

METAPHYSICS
MYSTICISM
ETHICS
AESTHETICS
POLITICS
RELIGION

MEANING
TRUTH
METHOD
CLARITY
SCIENCE
ORDER

What they
wanted:
COMPLIANCE.
CLARITY.
CONTAINMENT.

“The ordinary man on the street will understand me eventually.”
— Wittgenstein

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3

THE FIRST THEFT:

LOGICAL POSITIVISM

They stole the Tractatus
and built a system
of **certainty**.



CARNAP



SCHLICK



AYER



QUINE

WORLD



SILENCE
(ETHICS
MYSTICISM
VALUES)

THEY TOOK:

- ✓ LOGIC
- ✓ VERIFICATION
- ✓ SCIENTIFIC LANGUAGE
- ✓ ANTI-METAPHYSICS

THEY DROPPED:

- ✗ ETHICS
- ✗ MYSTICISM
- ✗ SILENCE
- ✗ THE LIMIT
- ✗ THE INEFFABLE

Whereof one
cannot speak,
thereof one
must be silent.

— Wittgenstein

LUDWIG WITTGENSTEIN

TRACTATUS
LOGICO-PHILOSOPHICUSLOGISCH-PHILOSOPHISCHE
ABHANDLUNG

1921

THE MISSING:

ETHICS
MYSTICISM
THE LIMIT
THE INEFFABLE

NOT NONSENSE.
NOT NULL.
JUST LEFT OUT.

POSITIVISM IS
NOT A THEORY.
IT'S A
EXCLUSION.



THE WORLD
WAS REDUCED
TO DATA.
THE HUMAN
REDUCED TO
SENTENCE.
WHAT COULDN'T
BE VERIFIED
WAS ERASED.

 $p \rightarrow q$ $\neg p \vee q$ $\therefore q$

p	q	p → q
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	T
F	F	T

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THE SECOND THEFT:

ORDINARY LANGUAGE

They kept "use"
and called it
"ordinary".

They turned language
into a therapy
for normality.



AUSTIN



RYLE

THEY KEPT:

- ✓ LANGUAGE-GAMES
- ✓ ORDINARY USE
- ✓ FORM OF LIFE
- ✓ DESCRIPTION
- ✓ WISDOM AS THERAPY

THEY DROPPED:

- ✗ EXISTENTIAL RISK
- ✗ THE ETHICAL
- ✗ THE MYSTICAL
- ✗ THE LIFE
- ✗ THE REAL

BACK TO
BUSINESS
AS USUAL.

Wisdom
as therapy.
Philosophy
as customer
service.

Language is not a
picture of reality.

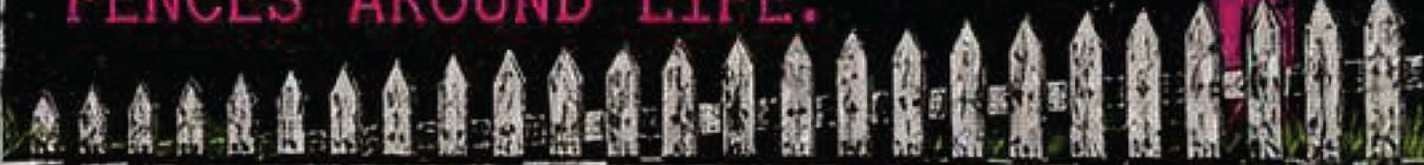
—Wittgenstein



Close
the door.
Open the
clinic.

ORDINARY = domesticated

LANGUAGE-GAMES ARE
FENCES AROUND LIFE.



THERAPEUTIC HUMAN:

- ✓ NO GRAND QUESTIONS
- ✓ NO DANGEROUS THINKING
- ✓ NO TRANSFORMATION
- ✓ JUST ADJUSTMENT



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WHAT THEY BRACKETED

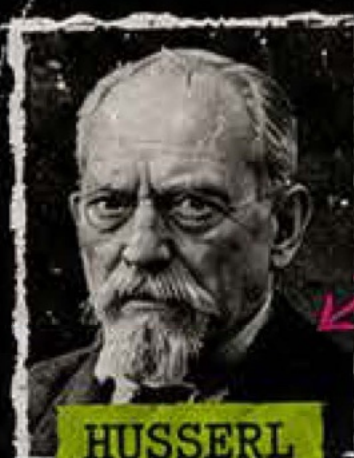


LOOK
OUTSIDE
THE FRAME.

THE WORLD.
THE BODY.
EXPERIENCE.
HISTORY.
FINITUDE.
SEXUALITY.
POWER.
MEANING.
SILENCE.
THE SACRED.
THE POLITICAL.
THE IRREDUCIBLE.
THE LIVED.
THE OTHER.
THE FUTURE.
THE QUESTION.

THEY SAID:
NOT RELEVANT.
NOT SCIENTIFIC.
NOT PROPOSITIONS.
NOT VERIFIABLE.
NOT OUR JOB.
NOTHING TO SEE HERE.

THE FRAME
IS A CHOICE.
SO IS WHAT
IT HIDES.



HUSSERL

PHENOMENOLOGY
RETURNED
THE WORLD.
THE LIVED.
THE MEANING
BEFORE CONCEPT.



HEIDEGGER

ONTOLOGY
ASKED ABOUT
BEING,
TIME,
AND THE
EVENT OF
PRESENCE.



MERLEAU-PONTY

EMBODIMENT
THE BODY
IS NOT AN OBJECT
IN THE WORLD.
IT IS HOW WE
HAVE A WORLD.



SARTRE

FREEDOM
EXISTENCE
PRECEDES ESSENCE.
WE ARE
CONDEMNED TO
BE FREE.



BEAUVOIR

OTHERNESS
WOMAN IS NOT
BORN.
SHE IS MADE
OTHER.

The framework
is the fence.
The cracks
are where
thought
escapes.

THEY DIDN'T
DESTROY REASON.
THEY REDUCED
ITS HORIZON.

PHILOSOPHY
AFTER THE FRAME:

TO THINK
IS TO
RESPOND.

TO RESPOND
IS TO BE
RESPONSIBLE.



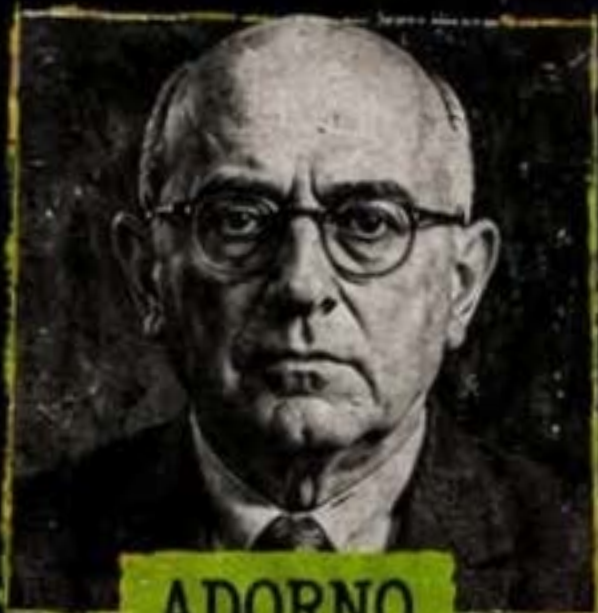
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6

FRANKFURT SCHOOL EXPOSES INSTRUMENTALITY



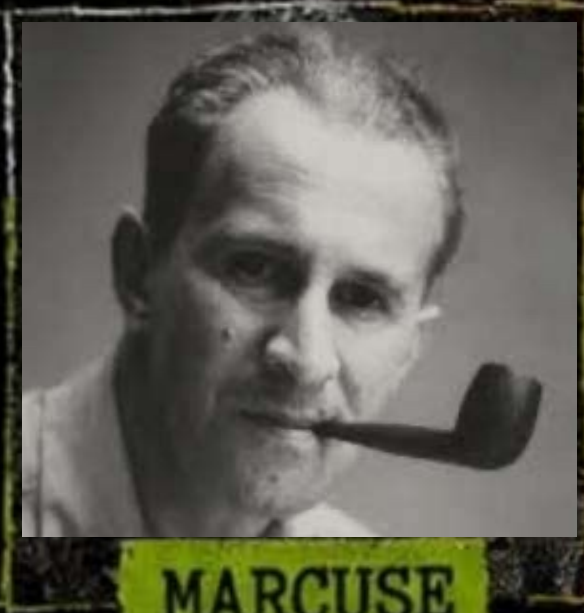
ADORNO



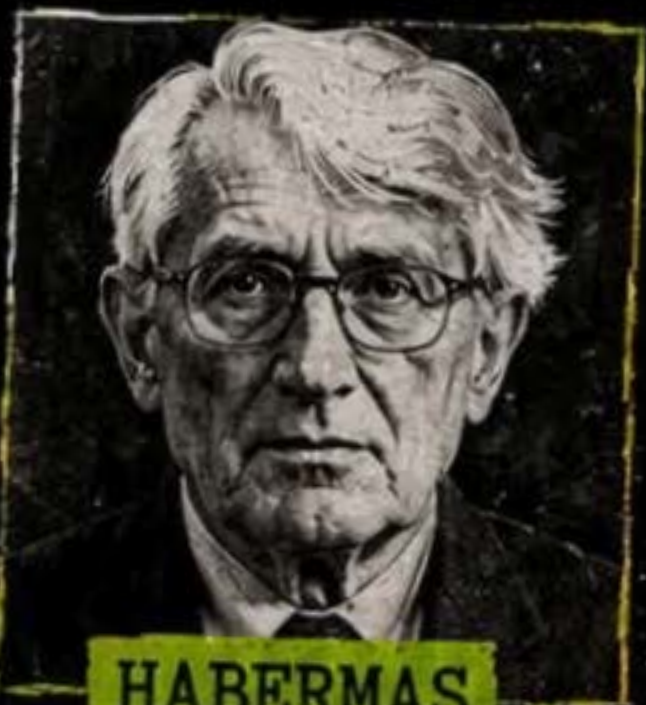
HORKHEIMER



BENJAMIN



MARCUSE



HABERMAS

They did not reject reason.
They exposed what reason
becomes under capitalism.

→ REASON BECOMES INSTRUMENT.

→ THINKING BECOMES ADMINISTRATION.

→ CLARITY WITHOUT CRITIQUE
BECOMES DOMINATION.



“ THE CULTURE INDUSTRY
IS THE FACTORY
OF CONSENT. * ”

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7

THE MISSING HALF OF REASON



THE NEUTRAL SUBJECT WAS NEVER NEUTRAL.
THE BODY WAS NOT AN ERROR.
IT WAS WHAT REASON EXCLUDED.



BEAUVOIR



ARENDT



MILLETT



IRIGARAY



KRISTEVA



BUTLER



BENHABIB



- FROM PRIVATE TO PUBLIC.
- FROM SILENCE TO SPEECH.
- FROM SUBJECT TO BECOMING.
- FROM EXCLUSION TO POLITICS.

THEY ASK:



- WHO SPEAKS?
- WHO IS HEARD?
- WHO IS ERASED?
- WHO LABORS?
- WHO CARES?
- WHO DECIDES?
- WHO COUNTS?

“SEXISM IS
NOT A SIDE
ISSUE.
IT IS THE
ARCHITECTURE
OF REASON.”



8

AI SURE DUMB

THE
CLOUD

THE FENCE RETURNS AS PLATFORM

FROM LOGIC TO CODE.
FROM USERS TO SERFS.
WELCOME TO THE
NEW FEUDALISM.



MUSK



ZUCKERBERG



ALTMAN



BEZOS

- YOUR DATA
- THEIR PROPERTY
- YOUR ATTENTION
- THEIR PROFIT
- YOUR LABOR
- THEIR AUTOMATION
- YOUR WORLD
- THEIR PLATFORM

DATA IS LAND.

ATTENTION IS LABOR.

PROMPTS ARE PRAYERS.

ALGORITHMS ARE LAWS.

PLATFORMS ARE CASTLES.

USERS ARE SERFS. 

FENCE. CODE. PAYWALL. PREDICT. CONTROL.
THIS IS NOT INTELLIGENCE.
THIS IS CAPTURE.

SUBSCRIBE
AGREE
OBEY
UPGRADE

The culture industry
is the factory
of consent.

—Adorno & Horkheimer

FREEDOM?
NOT A FEATURE.
A PAYWALL. 

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