From Mario Mieli to the Antisocial Turn: Gender Insights

Mario Mieli was an Italian writer and activist who was a key figure in the gay liberation movement in the 1970s. He was a proponent of radical queer politics and advocated for the abolition of the family and the state. Mieli's work has been influential in the development of queer theory and gender studies.

In recent years, there has been a growing interest in Mieli's work, particularly in relation to the concept of the "antisocial turn." The antisocial turn refers to a shift in queer politics from a focus on assimilation and respectability to a more radical and confrontational approach. This shift has been influenced by a number of factors, including the AIDS crisis, the rise of neoliberalism, and the increasing visibility of trans and non-binary people.



Queer Theories: An Introduction: From Mario Mieli to the Antisocial Turn (Gender Insights) by Lorenzo Bernini

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This article will explore Mieli's work and its relevance to the antisocial turn in gender politics. We will begin by examining Mieli's critique of the family and the state. We will then discuss the concept of the antisocial turn and its implications for gender theory. Finally, we will consider the contemporary relevance of Mieli's work for queer and gender activists.

Mieli's Critique of the Family and the State

Mieli's critique of the family and the state is based on the idea that these institutions are inherently oppressive to women and queer people. He argues that the family is a patriarchal institution that serves to reproduce the gender binary and maintain the subordination of women. The state, in turn, is a capitalist institution that enforces the norms of the family and regulates the lives of citizens.

Mieli argues that the family and the state are not natural or inevitable institutions. Rather, they are social constructs that have been created to maintain the power of the ruling class. He calls for the abolition of the family and the state and the creation of a new society based on freedom, equality, and solidarity.

The Antisocial Turn

The antisocial turn refers to a shift in queer politics from a focus on assimilation and respectability to a more radical and confrontational approach. This shift has been influenced by a number of factors, including the AIDS crisis, the rise of neoliberalism, and the increasing visibility of trans and non-binary people.

The AIDS crisis had a devastating impact on the queer community. It led to the deaths of thousands of people and created a climate of fear and stigma. In response, queer activists began to develop new strategies for resistance. These strategies included direct action, civil disobedience, and the creation of alternative communities.

The rise of neoliberalism has also contributed to the antisocial turn. Neoliberalism is a political and economic ideology that emphasizes the importance of free markets and individualism. It has led to a decrease in government support for social programs and an increase in inequality. This has made it more difficult for queer people to access healthcare, housing, and other essential services.

The increasing visibility of trans and non-binary people has also played a role in the antisocial turn. Trans and non-binary people have always existed, but they have only recently become more visible in the media and in popular culture. This visibility has challenged the traditional gender binary and opened up new possibilities for queer identity.

The antisocial turn is a rejection of the assimilationist politics of the past. It is a call for a more radical and confrontational approach to queer liberation. This approach is based on the idea that queer people should not have to conform to the norms of the dominant culture. Instead, they should be free to create their own communities and live their lives on their own terms.

Mieli's Relevance for the Antisocial Turn

Mieli's work offers a valuable critique of the family and the state. He argues that these institutions are inherently oppressive to women and queer people and that they must be abolished. Mieli's work is also relevant to the

antisocial turn in gender politics. He advocates for a radical and confrontational approach to queer liberation that rejects the norms of the dominant culture.

Mieli's work is a reminder that queer liberation is an ongoing struggle. It is a struggle against the family, the state, and all forms of oppression. This struggle is not easy, but it is necessary. Mieli's work provides us with the inspiration and the tools we need to continue the fight for a more just and equitable world.

Mario Mieli was a visionary thinker and activist who made significant contributions to the development of queer theory and gender studies. His work is still relevant today, particularly in relation to the concept of the antisocial turn. The antisocial turn is a rejection of the assimilationist politics of the past. It is a call for a more radical and confrontational approach to queer liberation. This approach is based on the idea that queer people should not have to conform to the norms of the dominant culture. Instead, they should be free to create their own communities and live their lives on their own terms.

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