

THE ROLE OF CONFLICT IN CONTEMPORARY DEMOCRACIES

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ABSTRACT:

The present work intends to make a normative approach of the importance of the conflict in the contemporary democracies with the objective to rethink how this one must be understood and lived against the human diversity. To this end, we shall dwell here exclusively on the analysis of Nino's constructivist conception of knowledge between Rawls and Habermas.

In such delicate moments of extremist positions in the political-social arena, Nino recognizes that consensus is practically unfeasible. However, as decisions must be made - and usually in small spaces of time - the author advocates a democratic process of discussion and collective argument in which all individuals are on an equal footing and without coercive pressures for a subsequent majority decision as the most reliable method of approaching a morally right and impartial decision. A greater exchange of ideas would allow the participation of the various sectors of society, pressing for the presentation of coherent justifications, since a debate with other people generally contributes to detect phatic and logical errors, because, in the end, factual observation and the use of rules of inference are the product of widespread abilities, and most people would not make the same mistake. In addition, the decision to be built cooperatively does not prevent it from being viewed with caution, since the disagreement of a minority is what can sometimes even confer the degree of impartiality for the decision taken to be taken as the more correct, and also the basis for questioning and disobeying it.

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Finally, for Nino, since it is not possible to completely separate politics from morality, the influence of emotions in the democratic process is inevitable, so we must learn to live as well as possible in this scenario and use it as an ancillary instrument for a procedure still more democratic, inclusive and plural.

In this work I will approach the role of the conflict defended by Nino, without however annulling it integrally. I understand that, in practice, conflict is the founder of democracy, not a problem to be overcome. We are incomplete beings, limited, imperfect and diverse conceptions of good of life. What we can hope for are partial answers, permanently challenged by new democratic demands in a process that is always unfinished. Recognizing the impossibility of eradicating the conflictive dimension of social life is a necessary condition for understanding the challenge facing contemporary democratic politics. Thus, we can learn to live with differences and make it our driving force to evolve, because just as Nino believes that diversity can help us to identify problems more fully, to collaborate in solving them, to test solutions to see whether they adapt to local circumstances and discipline solutions based on those adopted elsewhere.

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