

DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS

Michael M. Nickl: "On the Rhetoric of Parliamentary Votes of No-Confidence in the German Reichstag (1931/32) and Bundestag (1972). A Speech Science Analysis of Public Verbal Communication"; XI + 483 pp. Munich 1976, ISBN 3 88073 015 6; 36.- D.M. (Folio bound)
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German original edition: "Zur Rhetorik parlamentarischer Mißtrauensvoten in Deutschem Reichstag (1931/32) und Bundestag (1972). Eine sprechwissenschaftliche Analyse sprachlich-öffentlicher Kommunikation".

This work is based on original historical speech documents, decelith phonographic records and audiotapes. Beginning with a conceptual reformulation of the act of communicative speech, sundry macroprosodic features, emphatic stress variables and intonation contours of rhetorical phrase units are investigated on the continuous speech recognition level and cohesively related to immediate rhetorical interaction. Methodologically the author presents an applied hermeneutic approach comprising an auditive-argumentative-phenomenal model of what he calls objectification. By argumentative synthesis the empirically emerged components are compiled and tied upon the categorical-coherent framework with regard to the historical background and the parliamentary circumstances.

Instead of bare paraphrasing the 'content' as a system of effect-appealing sign relations like a 'rhetorical analysis', the Rhetoric of Parliamentary Votes of No-Confidence in the German Reichstag (1931/32) and Bundestag (1972) - on the level of argumentation - is understood as the communicative mediation of rejecting the otherness of the others and oversubscribing that otherness phantomically within rhetorical interaction and polemics. Thus the author explicates the nature of that alienating rhetoric step by step.