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The role of values and value-identity

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Propositions

Maja Kutlaca

- 1. Although people may care about values like freedom or equality, they may not necessarily act upon them, nor perceive them to be violated in a given situation.
- 2. Values and their perceived violations can unify various individuals in defending important principles and thereby energize joint action. (this thesis)
- 3. Perceived value violations have the power to define and politicize group identities which otherwise may not yet include shared norms or beliefs related to actively fighting injustice and improving the group's status. (this thesis)
- 4. Reinforcing an internal obligation for action by making justice concerns salient in a mobilization message may be a more viable strategy than focusing on more extrinsic factors that can quickly lose their power and appeal after initial setbacks. (this thesis)
- 5. Preaching to the choir has never converted anyone. (anonymous promotor)
- 6. Activists have to keep an open mind and tune their communication to different audiences, so as to able to also reach those who may initially not sympathize with their cause. (this thesis)
- 7. Values can bind, but also blind and divide members of the disadvantaged group. (this thesis)
- 8. Asymmetrical relations between active and passive members of disadvantaged groups can represent a significant obstacle to group unity and social change. (this thesis)
- 9. The ultimate tragedy is not the oppression and cruelty by the bad people, but the silence over that by the good people. (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.)
- 10. We do not act rightly because we have virtue or excellence, but we rather have those because we have acted rightly. (Aristotle)