

THE MORALIZATION OF LAW IN NATIONAL SOCIALISM



Philosophy Melden Lecture:

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10:00 AM-12:00 PM

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The lecture will explore the theoretical consequences of the demand for the unification of law and morality in National Socialism legal theory. I try to show that the experience with National Socialism supports the separation of law and morality on normative grounds. However, this does not mean to deny a connection between the two domains. Rather, the case of National Socialist law invites us to translate our historical and moral insights about the structure and working of an evil legal system into normative requirements for decent law. Such requirements, situated as they are between law and morality and constituting crucial components of the Rule of Law, allow us to criticize and reject bad and wicked law not only on moral, but also on legal grounds.

