

Parties and Public Reason

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Abstract: Ferrara discusses Bonotti's *Partisanship and Political Liberalism in Diverse Societies*

From a largely sympathetic Rawlsian perspective. While overall appreciating Bonotti's effort to analyze the relation of parties to public reason, Ferrara raises two observations. First, the list of functions played by parties could be completed with parties' contribution a) to conjectural arguments, b) to narrowing political differences, and c) to exploring frontiers of political possibility. Second, the consequences of Rawls's ground-breaking liberal principle of legitimacy should be included within Bonotti's discussion of parties.

Keywords: Parties, Public Reason, Rawls.

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