

HUMOR



Judith Butler
(1956-)

FIRST PRIZE FOR BAD WRITING

Judith Butler is a radical feminist Professor of Rhetoric and Comparative Literature with a Ph.D. from Yale and an endowed chair at the University of California at Berkeley. Professors of rhetoric used to be experts at writing, before the advent of political correctness. In 1998 the journal *Philosophy and Literature* awarded Butler first prize in its bad writing contest for the following sentence:

“The move from a structuralist account in which capital is understood to structure social relations in relatively homologous ways to a view of hegemony in which power relations are subject to repetition, convergence, and rearticulation brought the question of temporality into the thinking of structure, and marked a shift from a form of Althusserian theory that takes structural totalities as theoretical objects to one in which the insights into the contingent possibility of structure inaugurate a renewed conception of hegemony as bound up with the contingent sites and strategies of the rearticulation of power.”

Judith Butler
“Further Reflections on the Conversations of Our Time”
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