“Injustice and the Dubious Value of Anger”

Martha Nussbaum
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Although everyone is familiar with the damage anger can do in both personal and public life, people tend to think that it is necessary for the pursuit of justice. Isn’t it servile not to react with anger to great injustice, whether toward oneself or toward others? On the other hand, recent years have seen three noble and successful freedom movements conducted in a spirit of non-anger: those of Mohandas Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Nelson Mandela. This lecture argues that a close philosophical analysis of the emotion of anger can help us to see why it is of dubious value in both life and political action.

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