Discorso negazionista e libertà di espressione

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Denialism and Freedom of Expression

Abstract: This paper explores forms and contents of Holocaust denial, which is presented as a puzzling discourse both in epistemic and moral terms. This explains the deep debate around 1) how to consider this kind of discourse; 2) whether and how it is justifiable to ban it. I argue that the question of freedom of expression and of its peripheral or pivotal relevance as a political value plays a large role in the normative evaluation of the available restrictivistic answers. I will consider, as possible anwers, penalization (restricting Holocaust denial as a criminal discourse), epistemic rebuttal (restricting Holocaust denial as a false discourse) and political rejection (restricting Holocaust denial as hate speech). The conclusion will be that restrictivistic answers are unconvincing because the only countermeasure to false discourse is more discourse.

Keywords: Holocaust denial, Freedom of expression, False speech, Hate speech.

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