

The conformist  
response walter?  
benjamin?"the?  
work ?of? art? in the?  
age?of?its? ...



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Response? essay? on? ‘ the? conformist’ What? raised? my? interest? in?  
Both? the? film? “ The? conformist”? and? the? article? by? Walter?  
Benjamin? “ The? Work? of? Art? in? the? Age? of? its? Mechanical?  
Reproduction”,? is? the? reference? to? the? concept? of? “ Normality” .?  
Obviously,? what? was? once? “ normal”? is? not? considered? as? such?  
now? days.? The? inconsistency? of? what? that? term? means,? is? what?  
creates? the? paradox? in? the? importance? society? grants? it.? “  
Normality”? is? a? concept? that? contains? a? human? necessity? which? is?  
communicated? through? all? walks? of? life.? Whether? in? politics,? art,?  
literature,? people? find? their? way? of? expressing? their? need? to? be? “  
normal”,? to? belong.? The? protagonist? of? the? movie,? Clarici,?? aspires?  
to? be? defined? by? society? as? a? normal? man? with? a? normal? home?  
and? a? normal? life,? he? aspires? to? that,? because? all? his? life? he? did?  
not? have? that? feeling. This? is? what? Sartre? referred? to? as? the? “ hell?  
of? other? people”,? our? constant? need? of? being? approved? is? also?  
our? torture.? This? is? the? need? that? brought? people? to? join? the?  
fascism? and? other? political? movements? of? the? time.? The? individual?  
basically? decays? in? the? mass? culture? because? of? the? constant? need?  
to? feel? a? part? of? something. At? the? end? of? the? movie,? when? the?  
fascist? dictatorship? falls,? the? definition? of? normal? changes? as? well,?  
leaving? Clarici? lost? and? alone? at? the? final? scene.? The? irony? is?  
that? he? seemed? just? as? lost? when? surrounded? by? a? crowded?  
circle? of? people? in? a? party,? for? he? does? not? really? feel? as? one?  
of? them. There? is? no? coincidence? in? the? fact? that? the? time? of? the?  
mechanical? reproduction,? as? referred? to? in? the? article,? is? the? same?  
time? in? which? rose? the? totalitarian? regimes.? Benjamin?  
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