

Praxis

Tags

#praxis

#human action

#acting-together

In Ancient Greek praxis (πρᾶξις) meant practice, or action. Aristotle was the first to define it as one among three basic human activities, along theoria (thinking) and poiesis (making, constructing). Since the 19th century, especially within the field of Marxism it has gained wider meaning as a creative activity through which woman creates herself and the history in which she partakes.

In Aristotle's understanding, three basic human activities strive towards different end goals: actions in *theoria* result in truth, those in *poiesis* result in a creative, material product, and *praxis* means action among men and women. Praxis, or practical action is further divided into economics, ethics and politics. Unlike solitary actions of *theoria* or object-oriented actions of *poiesis*, *praxis* presupposes humans as actors, and human relations as the result of those actions. In the 20th century, most notably among Marxists, but in Hannah Arendt's work as well, *praxis* denotes the realm of experiential human action through which humanity realizes its full potentials, exactly in *acting-together*.

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