

## Faculti Summary

<https://staging.faculti.net/civic-ritual-and-disciplined-dissent-in-late-medieval-england/>

This video discusses a scholarly analysis of political behavior and rituals in late medieval England, specifically through the lens of "discipline dissent." The speaker explains that traditional views of politics often frame it as a binary of submission versus rebellion, but this perspective overlooks more nuanced forms of political interaction that do not fall neatly into those categories.

The focus is on how non-elite groups in urban settings, such as towns in the 14th and 15th centuries, utilized rituals to negotiate political positions and achieve concessions from civic authorities. The speaker emphasizes the importance of attendance and participation in rituals as a means of either reinforcing or compromising the legitimacy of political authority. An example includes the procession accompanying a newly elected mayor, where varying levels of participation can signal support or dissent, influencing future negotiations.

This video also outlines the evolution of scholarly thought on the role of urban rituals, highlighting shifts from viewing them as purely unifying civic acts to understanding how they can serve as tools of control over the populace, and even how failed rituals can indicate challenges to authority.

In conclusion, the speaker advocates for a more complex understanding of political agency in history, suggesting that future research should critically examine medieval records to uncover the implications of ritual participation and the often-implicit dissent communicated through absence.