

Insuffler l'extrémisme : politisation de la fiction et polarisation des échanges en ligne

Instilling extremism: politicization of fiction and polarization of online exchanges

Louise Burté, Nicolas Amadio et Francine Gerhard-Krait

Abstract: Since the beginning of the Internet age, extremist groups have found new means to gather and share their beliefs (Zickmund, 1997). Despite efforts to counter these phenomena (Winter *et al.*, 2020), academic research has yet to understand hidden and insidious manifestations of hate and violence, as digital tools offer ways to disguise themselves, be they technological, discursive, or visual. This article proposes to examine how extremism can be embedded in ordinary exchanges in a French online forum. Using a multimodal approach, several forms of instrumentalization of fiction were uncovered, revealing ways in which extremism can be discreetly disseminated online.

Keywords: cyberviolence, politicization, extremism, covert hate speech, metaphor