

'Thinking against the Grain': Challenging the (Emerging) Liberal Consensus

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After World War II, there was an emerging consensus on matters of race, including racial equality, which not only elicited opposition from conservatives and segregationists but also from legal realists and other liberals. In particular, two prominent intellectuals also expressed discomfort with the new consensus, novelist Zora Neal Hurston and political thinker Hannah Arendt. It is their thinking on these matters that I will explore in my talk.

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