



Humour as Politics: The Political Aesthetics of Contemporary Comedy (Palgrave Studies in Comedy)

Nicholas Holm

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This book argues that recent developments in contemporary comedy have changed not just the way we laugh, but the way we understand the world. Drawing on a range of contemporary televisual, cinematic and digital examples, from Seinfeld and Veep to Family Guy and Chappelle's Show, Holm explores how humour has become a central site of cultural politics in the twenty-first century. More than just a form of entertainment, humour has come to play a central role in the contemporary media environment, shaping how we understand ideas of freedom, empathy, social boundaries and even logic. Through an analysis of humour as a political and aesthetic category, *Humour as Politics* challenges older models of laughter as a form of dissent and instead argues for a new theory of humour as the cultural expression of our (neo)liberal moment.

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