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Discours et contradiction

Abstract: Contradiction is a relation between two terms or two propositions, in which one affirms that which the other denies. The principle of non-contradiction denies the possibilibily for a conjunction between p and its negation non-p: if one is true, the other is false (Aristotle, Métaphysique, book Γ , chapter 3, 1005 b 19-20). In logical reasoning, when proceeding from certain axioms, spotting a contradiction is enough to undermine an argument's soundness. My intention is to show that linguistic contradiction underlies many interactions in our society, often leading to situations of incommunicability which constrain us from acting spontaneously and may culminate with pathological depersonalization.

Keywords: discourse, contradiction, social interactions, incommunicability, depersonalization