

Power games: Huizinga vs. Klein - approaches to play

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Play is one of the central aspects at the base of human thought. Numerous sources demonstrate how common manifestations of play in diverse cultures and throughout different periods are present in multiple contexts of the human mind. However, several resources also point to the lack of knowledge regarding this phenomenon and the evolution of its varied forms. This article seeks to conduct a dialogue between two opposing approaches to the subject of play, one – Huizinga, stems from philosophy and culture, and the second - Klein, stems from psychoanalysis. The purpose of the dialogue between these two approaches is to examine the relations of power operating in the field of play, based upon Foucault's definition of power. This study focused on the following points: The overt and covert powers on the playing field, the manner in which aspects of power are reflected in the liberation of the *playing man*, the essence of the playing man, the social order of the playing field and the aesthetics of play.

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