

## A Brief Outline of *Anti-Oedipus*

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This outline adapted from Ronald Bogue, *Deleuze and Guattari* (New York: Routledge, 1989).

- I. all desire is social; best guide to social desire is schizophrenic id rather than neurotic ego.
  - A. schizo-analysis: focus on body parts and social connections:
    - 1. not a "celebration" of schizophrenia, but use of it to explore contemporary society
    - 2. individual subject as heterogenous aggregate of parts functioning in social and natural machines
  - B. subsume Marx and Freud in single Nietzschean framework: desiring-production.
    - 1. critique of traditional Marxism and Freudianism
    - 2. history and politics of social libido

- II. Critique of Freudianism: extending Freud beyond family
  - A. Oedipal-capitalism link ignored
    - 1. Oedipus is mode of channeling desire
    - 2. psychoanalysis reinforces this channeling
  - B. Capitalism and desire
    - 1. deterritorializes:
      - a. destroys feudal hierarchial channels
      - b. sets adrift pieces of desire, bodies, etc.
    - 2. reterritorializes:
      - a. channels all production into commodity form
      - b. Oedipalization concentrates, individualizes desire into neurotic daddy-mommy-me
    - 3. schizophrenia is result of fragmentation without Oedipal reintegration
  - C. Positive desire:
    - 1. desire traditionally seen as lack
      - a. cf Plato
      - b. exception: Spinoza
      - c. Lacan most evident example today
    - 2. for D & G, this is negative, reactive, idealistic, slavish
    - 3. rather, they want positive, productive desire
      - a. desiring-production
        - (1) Freud's libido
        - (2) Nietzsche's will-to-power
      - b. unconscious
        - (1) unrelated to negation
        - (2) indifferent to personal identity
        - (3) independent of linguistic expression
      - c. pure multiplicities: nomadic singularities

- III. Critique of Marx: libidinalizing Marx
  - A. "social field is immediately invested w/ desire"
    - 1. no distinction between production and consumption
  - B. "everything is production"
    - 1. no distinction between use and exchange value
      - a. use value depends on stable needs, but needs are mobile, produced (as Marx knew very well)

- IV. Schizo-model for desiring production (Not a romanticizing of schizophrenia, but using it to interrogate modern production)
  - A. desiring-machines: invasion/persecution
    - 1. production proper
    - 2. cutting off primary flows
      - a. symbolizes unceasing production
      - b. e.g. flow of milk between

- (1)breast machine
- (2)mouth machine
- 3.linked in chains with other machines
  - a.in body
  - b.other bodies
  - c.nature
  - d.society
- 4.unconscious is a factory rather than a theater
- 5.rather than linking dependent parts into a functioning whole, desiring machines involve heterogenous "parts" in a connective synthesis

#### B.body without organs: catatonia

- 1.recording (distribution and exchange / unconscious inscription)
  - 2.congealing of d-machines into undifferentiated object
    - a.d-machines at zero intensity
  - 3.extra part produced alongside desiring machines
    - a.paranoiac machine: body w/o organs repels d-m
    - b.miraculating machine: " " " " attracts d-m
  - 4.**socius**: larger social body w/o organs
    - a.body of earth:
      - (1)primitive
      - (2)autochthonous myths [miraculating]
    - b.body of despot
      - (1)barbaric
      - (2)divine origin and absolute power myths [miraculating]
    - c.body of capital
      - (1)capitalistic
      - (2)fetishism: capital appears to produce labor [miraculating]
  - 5.each chain of d-machines is a line traversing body w/o organs, thus forming a grid
  - 6.disjunctive synthesis: all lines are libidinally invested at once in a synthesis that affirms differentiation
- #### C.nomadic subject: multiple personalities
- 1.consumption
  - 2.when social codes [e.g. Oedipus] break down in their channelling of desire, then the nomadic subject is possible, traversing the lines of the d-machines inscribed on the body w/o organs
- #### D.Model of the giant egg traversed by lines with a wandering point of pure intensity

### V.History of social machines

#### A.primitive territories

- 1.pre-state: resist centralization of power
- 2.socius: body of the earth
- 3.codes: kinship relations coding flow of goods, privilege, people, prestige
  - a.filiation: fixed "capital" stock
    - (1)blood
    - (2)administrative
    - (3)hierarchial
  - b.alliance: mobile blocks of debt
    - (1)marriage
    - (2)political
    - (3)economic
- 4.debt:
  - a.primary dissymmetry setting in motion flows
  - b.ceremonial inscription within systems
    - (1)giver: debtor
    - (2)receiver: surplus value of code
- 5.representation:
  - a.ceremonial system is a **writing** in which words pronounced and signs written are plurivocal
  - b.system is also libidinal economy of pleasure and pain
    - (1)cf. Nietzsche and debtor-creditor

#### B.barbarian despotic states

- 1.befalls primitive territories as catastrophe from without

- 2. socius: body of despot
  - 3. codes: functional pyramid
    - a. despot at apex
    - b. peasant at base
  - 4. debt:
    - a. primitive debt become infinite debt of existence owed to despot
    - b. punishment no longer festive, but vengeful
  - 5. representation:
    - a. fixed meanings
    - b. deterritorialization of graphic sign: made into transcription of the voice
    - c. sound given meaning by transcendent authority enforcing law of linguistic regularity [dream of transcendental signifier]
      - (1) Saussurian linguistics is reflection on despotic representation
      - (2) signifier dominates the signified
        - (a) two forces:
          - i) deterritorializing of signifiers [creates arbitrary flow]
          - ii) fixing of signifier-signified
        - (b) signifier is arbitrary, but also "acoustic image" within which resounds "mute voice from on high"
- C. civilized capitalist production
  - 1. capitalist machine arises from within
  - 2. socius: body of capital
  - 3. debt:
    - a. deterritorialized into abstract unit of exchange: free flows of goods, bodies, images, etc
    - b. reterritorialized thru an **axiomatic**,
      - (a) conjoining two flows
      - (b) of labor
      - (c) of capital
        - (1) direct relation of entities on abstract qualities
        - (2) no limit: can always add new axiom
  - 4. representation:
    - a. breaks free of Saussurian domination
    - b. means nothing: simply functions as means of co-ordination of flows
  - 5. post-state: capitalist state is hangover
    - a. cap sign does not simply replace despotic sign, but reintegrates it
    - b. absorption yet indigestibility provokes oscillation between two poles of desire
      - (1) paranoia (metaphysics!)
        - (a) domination
        - (b) hierarchy
        - (c) molar aggregates
      - (2) schizophrenia
        - (a) non-systematic
        - (b) nomadic
        - (c) molecular

## VI. Schizo-politics:

- A. overcoming paranoiac tendencies by intensifying schizophrenic tendencies,
  - 1. accelerating deterritorialization
  - 2. for those trapped in hierarchies
  - 3. micro-political intervention
  - 4. good for intervention in hierarchial parties
- B. politics of creativity:
  - 1. freeing of new patterns:
  - 2. horizontal rather than vertical
- C. Foucault: power as primary
- D. Deleuze and Guattari: desire as primary