

The State and the Interpellated Subject: A Close Analysis of Select Sequences from *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*

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Abstract

The paper attempts a close analysis of the film adaptation of Mohsin Hamid's novel *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* to unveil the power structures inherent in the making of the movie. The structure of the state and how the state imagines a subject will be analyzed with the help of the cine-semiotic tools. The paper focusses on selected sequences from the movie for analysis and to decipher the ways the dominant order subtly works in a text and to find the ways in which they are subverted. Louis Althusser's concept of interpellation and Zygmunt Bauman's ideas on identity and community are used as theoretical tools to develop the paper. Two sequences from the movie are closely analyzed to understand how the act of interpellation works in a society. The paper brings out how economic fundamentalism and religious fundamentalism work in the same way through the content and sequence analysis of the visual narrative.

Keywords: Althusser, interpellation, fundamentalism, identity, community, Bauman