



# A brief genealogy of the category of the subject from Althusser and Foucault to Badiou's Theory of the Subject [

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Analítica

This essay traces the genealogy and evolution of the category of the subject as it developed in the thought of Louis Althusser, Michel Foucault, and Alain Badiou. As will be seen, within the fruitful and complementary dialogue about the subject and subjectivity formation among these three French thinkers, there are major discrepancies in their approaches, from Althusser's seemingly passive view of the subject as a victim of state oppression, to Foucault's one, embedded in power but with the capacity of resistance, and, finally, to Badiou's understanding, in his book *Théorie du sujet* (Theory of the Subject, 1982), of the subject as the one who courageously takes risks to put into practice the truth brought about by the event in order to radically transform the present situation

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