

The *Polis* and the *Res Publica*: Two Arendtian Models of Political Violence

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The author:

Caroline completed her PhD this year in the Department of Politics and International Studies at Cambridge, researching Hannah Arendt's political thought. Prior to that she obtained a BA in Social and Political Studies from Cambridge and an MA in History of Political Thought and Intellectual History from Queen Mary, London and University College London. Her research interests cover twentieth century political thought and contemporary political theory, and she has recently published in *Modern Intellectual History* on Hannah Arendt's Jewish writings.

The paper:

The influence of the ancient Greek world on Hannah Arendt's thought is well-documented, yet her later turn towards an interest in the politics of the Roman Republic is generally seen to be less central to her work. This paper explores Arendt's analysis of both the Greek and Roman political spheres, particularly in terms of her understanding of the role of violence in politics. It suggests that, in fact, Arendt preferences the Roman model in certain respects. Through this, she offers a model of how politics and violence engage which contrasts with her claim in *On Violence* that violence is - in the abstract - structurally anti-political.