Seeing Through Lies: Plato on How to Avert Tyranny

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The Author:

Jill Frank is Professor of Government and member of the graduate field in Classics at Cornell University, formerly founder and director of the Classics in Contemporary Perspectives Initiative at the University of South Carolina (2008-2013). Frank explores antique historical, philosophical, and dramatic texts in their context and as resources for contemporary democratic theory and practice. She is the author of *A Democracy of Distinction: Aristotle and the Work of Politics*(Chicago, 2005) and *Poetic Justice: Rereading Plato's* Republic (Chicago 2018).

The Paper:

Building on an argument in *Poetic Justice* about the *Republic*'s distinction between deception and falsity, this paper argues against the longstanding conviction that the *Republic* sanctions lying in the name of justice, brings to light the connections in the dialog between lying and tyranny, and makes the case for the key role of mimesis in seeing through lies.