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# Millennial Change: Katherine Anne Porter's Political Understanding of the Long War: (1914-1945)

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## Abstract

This paper pulls together Porter's experiences in Mexico, in the United States, and in Europe and her study of the Early Modern Period, the period she called "her stamping ground." Porter put together her experience of contemporary history with her study of the history preceding it to arrive at her worldview, her philosophy. She characterized the first half of the Twentieth Century as "a period of millennial change." The concept of millennialism lies behind two of Porter's most controversial claims: 1.) Communism, the extreme form of Marxist movements of the left, and Nazism, the extreme form of Fascist movements of the right, are one and the same; and 2.) they make evident (reify) the dialectic of good and evil that Porter believed is the essence of humanity, what she calls, "the source," her most controversial claim.

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