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**Auf der anderen Seite. Images of violence, difference and solidarity in contemporary films on Islamic cultures and Islamic fundamentalism**

Video works and movies have helped in the last years to deconstruct the popular western clichéd view of islamic cultures. Different but also similar examples for this are the philosophical film *Auf der anderen Seite (The Edge of Heaven)* (2007) from the German-Turkish director Fatih Akin and the autobiographical animated cartoon *Persepolis* (2007) from Marjane Satrapi and Vincent Paronnaud. The essay analyses, which role solidarity is playing in the both films, how traditional western gender stereotypes about Islamic cultures are deconstructed and gender specific violence in Islamic fundamentalism is criticised.