

Title: Approaching political responsibility

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The following thesis is proved in this work: using a biographical approach enriches and deepens the understanding of complex, philosophical concepts. The explored philosophical context is 'political responsibility'. The lives of Hannah Arendt and Max Weber are explored to determine the influence of certain aspects on their life on their work. In the case of Arendt these aspects are her Jewishness and her statelessness. For Weber the focus is on the rule of Bismarck, life in post-war Germany and his Protestantism. Finally, a careful comparison is made between Arendt and Weber.