

XENOPHOBIA, BETWEEN PHANTASMAL PROJECTION AND IDEOLOGICAL STEREOTYPE

Rezumat: *The maps of Antiquity and Middle Ages populated the frontiers of the world known with a veritable panoply of human monsters. In the Renaissance, together with the greatest discoveries, these fantastic figures were brought to the New World. But these wonderful beings were often the projections of repressed desires and aspirations, as well as of Europe's terror and anxiety. By means of the figure of the peoples situated worlds apart, the European expresses his/her repressed libidinal drives by a double process of censorship: geographical (these monsters are placed in inaccessible places) and biological (they are situated outside human race). The problematics of the other's image becomes even more serious when these projections are not ingenuae, but directed by an evil-minded conscience. In this case, we are the witnesses of a true image pathology which, from an imaginary expression turns into an ideological instrument of holding someone culpable and demonizing the other.*