

Contents

Acknowledgments	V
I. Introduction	1
Notions of Violence – State of Research – Goals	1
Methodology: The Performative Turn and Ritual Studies (A Brief Overview)	10
The Controlling Function of Ritualization	16
Sources – Chronological Scope	19
II. Forensic Speeches	22
Ritual Framing	22
Constructing Violence: Discursive Rules of Violence I (Interaction)	32
Contexts	33
First Blow versus Self-Defense	34
Murder versus Lawful Homicide	35
Public versus Hidden Violence	51
Day versus Night	65
Inebriation versus Sobriety	67
Old Age versus Young Age	70
Thresholds (invasion of homes versus protection of <i>oikos</i>)	72
Disturbance of Public Duty versus Maintenance of Public Order	82
Perversion of Religious Customs	83
Perversion of Gender, Citizenship Status, Social Rank and Role	84
Mediated (Sanctioned) versus Direct Violence	94
Escalation versus De-escalation	96
Images of Violence: Discursive Rules of Violence II (Mental and Cultural Representation)	102
The Depiction of Violence	104
Selfless Motives versus Selfishness	114
Anger	115
Transgression of Boundaries	119
<i>Hubris</i>	120
Tyrants	126

Barbarians	130
Old versus New Discourse Strategies	131
Functions of Ritualization	140
How to Plead in Court – A Conclusion	158
III. Curse Tablets	164
Proportions – Social Origins of Cursors – Functions of Tablets	169
Ritual Framing	177
Ritual Actions (<i>drômena</i>)	178
Ritual Words (<i>legomena</i>)	182
Degree of Violence	189
Diachronic Development	222
Conclusion	227
IV. Old and New Comedy	235
Ritual Framing	238
Ritual Origins	238
Theater Production as Ritual Process	243
Ritual Efficacy	247
The Discursive Rules of Violence	251
Aristophanes	251
Three Case Studies: <i>Wasps</i> , <i>Birds</i> , and <i>Clouds</i>	285
The Double-Layeredness of Violence	311
Aristophanes' Discourse on Democracy – Summary	316
Menander	319
Menander's Discourse on Society – Summary	364
Ritual Functions of Scenes of Violence in Comedy	367
Conclusion	373
V. Conclusions	379
Chronological Development of the Violence Discourse in Different Genres	379
Three Theses on Athenian Violence	384
Controlling Function of Ritualization	387
Social Origins of Perpetrators of Violence	389

A State Monopoly on Violence?	391
Outlook on Violence in Athenian Foreign Policy	392
VI. References	395
1. Corpora of Athenian Curse Tablets	395
2. Abbreviated Works	396
3. English Translations	397
4. Secondary Literature	398
<i>Index locorum</i>	441
Literary Sources	441
Inscriptions	456
Papyri	461
Iconographical Sources	461
General Index	463
Important Greek and Latin terms	471
Ancient proper names (historical and fictional persons)	474