

Given his flamboyant nature, it is not surprising that Levy is often the subject of considerable derision. He is criticized for his unabashed self-promotion and seemingly ubiquitous presence in the media. He has been dismissed by critics as a "pop philosopher" and a media hound. In 1985 in an interview with the daily *Le Monde*, he boasted "I am the best essayist of my generation." In fairness, much of the criticism directed at Levy may be provoked more by his style and personality than by his actual writing.

Levy has striven in his essays to denounce, with moral intensity, the destructive powers within modern political ideologies. In *La Barbarie à Visage Humain* (Barbarity with a Human Face, 1977), he pointed at the totalitarian doctrinal factors rooted as much in leftist as in rightist ideologies. In *L'Idéologie Française* (The French Ideology, 1981), he demonstrated the insidious antisemitism linking the left to the right wing within France's political heritage.

His works convey the views not only of an erudite philosopher and a militant writer, but also of a Jew inspired by the concepts of Judaism. In 1979, he wrote *Le Testament de Dieu* (The Testament of God), 1979, a book