

## **Becoming a Warrior: Conspiracy, Dramaturgy, and Follower Charisma on the Far Right**

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**Abstract :** While much of the literature concerning Max Weber's concept of charisma has addressed the importance of the follower's recognition of and devotion to the charismatic leader, very little has been said about the processes that lead to the development of follower charisma. This article examines this largely overlooked aspect of the concept, as doing so (1) exacts the dynamics behind charisma's transferability by moving beyond follower-centric models that focus on the recognition of the leader and toward one that emphasizes the follower's generation and exhibition of charisma, (2) bridges a crucial gap between the rather wanting "losers of modernization" thesis and the social actor's proclivity to produce stories and self-cast in said stories, (3) presents authoritarian dispositions as a reaction to the weakening effects everydayness have on charisma, and (4) complicates Weber's formulation by reassessing the role of continually demonstrable mastery. To illustrate these dynamics, one should turn to the January 6th Capitol attack in the United States.

**Keywords :** max weber, extremism, right-wing populism, charisma

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