

Mori, Tatsuya, *Sisou no seijigaku: Isaiah Berlin kenkyu* [The Politics of Ideas: A Study of Isaiah Berlin's Political Thought] (Tokyo, 2018: Waseda University Press)

Abstract

Berlin is known as a pluralist, a liberal theorist, a historian of ideas and a Zionist. The purpose of this study is to understand his political ideas in a consistent manner, under the 'existentialist' assumption that not only his famous defence of negative freedom but also his work in the history of ideas reflect his own moral and political views. From this perspective, we can see him as a Jewish intellectual who lived during the 'short twentieth century' and faced the real dilemma between individual liberty and national belonging. His life as an intellectual gives us a case for reflecting on the viability of liberal political theory in the real world.