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1 Edmund Burke, A Philosophical Enquiry into the Origin of our Ideas of the Sublime and the Beautiful, in *The Works of Edmund Burke* (London, 1906), vol. 1, p. 95. All subsequent references to this work are given parenthetically after quotations in the text. 2 Louis Althusser, 'On ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses', in *Lenin and Philosophy* (London, 1971). Documents Similar To Eagleton - Aesthetics and Politics in Edmund Burke. Carousel Previous Carousel Next. The argument of Edmund Burke's *Philosophical Enquiry* was shaped by its author for a particular polemical purpose, that of demonstrating the incompatibility of the aesthetic categories of the sublime and the beautiful. This article shows that the conjunction of 'sublime' and 'beautiful' into a single collocation was identified during the first half of the eighteenth century with the writings of Anthony Ashley Cooper, third earl of Shaftesbury. Burke's often-ignored and much-misunderstood initial venture into political theory, *A Vindication of Natural Society*, is significant for announcing his lifelong preoccupation with the paradoxical role of reason as both vital ... Reason's Tragic Conflict with Tradition: The Aesthetic Dimension of Edmund Burke's Political Philosophy. Thomas William Sheehy. Dissertation, The Catholic University of America (1998). Abstract. Burke's often-ignored and much-misunderstood initial venture into political theory, *A Vindication of Natural Society*, is significant for announcing his lifelong preoccupation with the paradoxical role of reason as both vital to and destructive of, civil-social harmony. Similar books and articles. A "Politic Well-Wrought Veil" : Edmund Burke's Politico- Aesthetic.