



# Taking sides in Ronald Harwood's "Taking Sides"

### By Katrin Schmidt

Grin Verlag Gmbh, 2013. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. Neu Neuware; Rechnung mit MwSt.; new item; - Seminar paper from the year 2006 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 2,0, University of Münster (Englisches Seminar), 18 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: Introduction Wilhelm Furtwängler was a renowned German conductor before, during and after the Third Reich. He is still known today not least because of his ambiguous relationship with National Socialism. The playwright Ronald Harwood wrote a play named Taking Sides about Furtwängler s denazification trial. The title appeals to the audience to take sides rather than summing up the plot of the play. Harwood makes his audience witness a dialogue of two contrasting perspectives: Furtwängler, on the one hand who is convinced of his innocence, and on the other, there is American investigator Major Arnold whose aim is to prove Furtwängler s guilt. In the end it is up to the audience to take sides (cf. Glaap 2003, p. 13). Questions the playwright poses at his audience are: Why did Furtwängler stay in Germany whereas many other artists emigrated (How) Did he manage to conduct the Berlin Philharmonic without making a deal with...



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