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TITLE: Bystander Anti-Racism and the Problem of Human Will

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This paper is an exploration of the problem of anti-racist bystander action, in light of work carried out as part of an ARC Linkage grant examining the frequency, outcomes, enablers and constraints of bystander antiracism. In seeking to understand the complexities of this form of social action, I examine some of the ways that our tradition has understood the question of freedom and the role of the will in action. Drawing on the affective and new materialist turns in social theory, I argue that, through a more nuanced understanding of what it means to act, we can broaden the remit of what counts as bystander action and avoid the moralising tones of much anti-racist discourse.