

Ethical Discourse in Current Western Thought: Debate on Foundations, Consequences

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Abstract

This article includes an analysis of the relationship between the human nature concept and the areas of its ethical interpretation, and an attempt to monitor the radical transformation in the human nature concept, sometimes under the impact of anthropological, social, contextual, and particularly gender studies, and sometimes under the impact of the biotechnical revolution. The dispersion of trends in ethical philosophies, in terms of theorizing the foundations of ethical behavior, is directly reflected in many of the imagined limits of ethical responsibility, and the standards on the basis of which the understanding of human nature is regulated and its stability to a certain extent.

Therefore, we will focus on the value change in contemporary ethical discourse, that is, the shift from the classical and modern concept of human nature - relating to its essence and identity, intellect or sensitivity, where its metaphysical significance is determined - towards the contemporary concept in which it has become scientifically determined, as a complex biology, or as the result of a complex sociological upbringing. Whatever it is, this scientific referral of human nature has destabilized many of today's universal ethical values, and has questioned the usefulness of classical ethical principles, and the changes, which accompanied, in the structure and concept of the family, in some of its current forms, and in the nature of masculinity and femininity, and the relationship between the sexes.

Keywords:

Crisis, Philosophy, Western Ethical Thought, Human Nature, Gender, Anomaly Sexuality - Homosexuality.