After Virtue

Your Name (First M. Last)

School or Institution Name (University at Place or Town, State)

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Morality is defined by the actions and practice of individuals. The knowledge or understanding of how to live a good life also represents virtue. Alasdair Macintyre in his work “Virtue Ethics” have elucidated the notion of Virtue in Practice. According to the author practice of the individuals determines their morality or virtual. He identified three stages that define the core concept of the notion of virtue. The first stage is practice, the second stage is the narrative orders of human life and the third stage is moral traditions persistent in any society. In addition to this, the author has divided the idea of practice in two categories that are good practice and evil practice.

The profound analysis of the work by Alasdair Macintyre makes it apparent that he has rightly acknowledged the fact that not only practices of torture or sadomasochistic sexuality come under the category of evil practice but practices like painting or study which leads to neglect of other duties is also an evil practice. I believe that this is the strongest point of Alasdair Macintyre because this clearly elucidates the point that the impact of a practice on the personality and the society plays a vital role in labeling a practice as good or bad. With reference to this idea one point, this is confusing is that how one can label the practice as good or bad if the practice is beneficial or life-saving for the individual but it morally or traditionally wrong for the society and the best example of such situation is the practice of cross-dressing. Cross-dressings allows the people to express themselves and inability to do this causes depression which is detrimental for health.

So to cap it all, Alasdair Macintyre has rightly explained the notion of evil practice but has failed to throw some light on practices like cross-dressing.