Virtue Ethics

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Virtue Ethics

Virtue ethics is concerned with the notion of honesty and excellence of individuals; ethics should make humans and help to be better, and good people in society. Sometimes virtue ethics fails to guide individuals so that they would perform good actions, and virtue ethics does not function appropriately (Wood, 2017).

The complexity lies in the notation that, what is good and what is bad, same is the case with the good and bad actions by individuals. After the period of Renaissance (1400-1650), the divine law replaced with the Moral Law. While answering to the questions of good and bad, these led the philosophers to develop theories, such as the Ethical Egoism, the Social Contract Theory, Utilitarianism, and Kant's theory. Modern Moral Philosophy is considered as the "law without the lawgiver," and the concept of obligations, duties, and rightness are self-contradictory (Rachels & Rachels, 2018).

According to Aristotle, virtue is the trait of an individual’s character, and this character is manifested in habitual actions. Virtues can be bad and good as well, so there is a possibility to consider virtues as a commendable trait. The main issue with the Ethics of Virtues is the incompleteness, and there are three issues, which can be considered for the discussion. The first issue is that the Virtue of Ethics cannot explain the causes of moral conflict. Another issue is that it cannot explain the feelings of an individual for his/her kindness and care towards the other humans. It does not tell the interests of others and a complete interpretation of the ethical virtues. One can never assume about the implementation of the interests of the individuals, and one would never know when they would react to a particular event. Most importantly, the Virtue Ethics fails to answer why something should be a virtue and why it is a virtue for individuals.

References

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