

New Studies in Ethics

Edited by W D Hudson

What is involved in judging a person to be moral or immoral, or in calling an action right or wrong? What makes a man good or an action our duty? Such questions as these, which concern the nature and content of morality, have been discussed by philosophers from earliest times and are still live issues today.

Many different types of ethical theory have emerged. *New Studies in Ethics* meets the need for an up-to-date examination of the main types. This series of monographs covers the whole range of ethical theory from

Greek philosophers to the latest developments in contemporary moral philosophy. Each study is complete in itself and the whole series provides a unique treatment of the main philosophical problems in ethics.

A distinguished team of philosophers, drawn from universities in Great Britain, the U.S.A. and Australia, was invited to prepare these *Studies*. They have provided a series of monographs which will prove indispensable to university students of Moral Philosophy, and will interest any intelligent reader.

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CONTEMPORARY MORAL
PHILOSOPHY

Contemporary Moral Philosophy

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EDITOR'S PREFACE

New Studies in Ethics is a series of monographs by modern philosophers, drawn from universities in Great Britain, the United States, and Australia.

Each author was asked to prepare a comprehensive and critical discussion of the views of a philosopher, or school of philosophers, influential in the history of ethical theory. As a whole, the series covers the main types of theory from the early Greeks to the present day.

In recent years a good deal has been written by analytical philosophers concerning moral discourse. What are the defining characteristics of a moral judgment? How does the evaluation of a man's character as good, or of his actions as morally right, differ logically from any factual description which could be given of him or his behaviour? These are the kinds of question with which British moral philosophers and others have been concerned for more than half a century.

With characteristic lucidity, Mr. Warnock traces the course of this debate, guiding the reader through its main stages — from the intuitionism of G. E. Moore, through the emotivism of the logical positivists and the prescriptivism of such writers as R. M. Hare to the current reconsideration of naturalism.

His clear expositions of these modern authors will be invaluable to the reader who comes new to moral philosophy; and his penetrating criticisms will be of interest to all those who are concerned to understand moral discourse.

W. D. HUDSON