

(6) Freedom and Slavery

Two concepts of Liberty (Isaiah Berlin)

- first appeared as a lecture by Berlin before the Oxford Uni in 1958. Published
- reintroduced political philosophy to analytical philosophy, (compare with continental - false dichotomy)
 - Berlin's ethical ontology of "value pluralism" is opposed to "moral absolutism". Metaethical¹ theory, that different sets of values can be equally correct and still be in conflict with each other. No objective foundation of measure (Post-fundamental) → Mouffe's agonal democracy
- Analytic - with the help of logic, mathematical logic explain reality

(1) "**Negative Liberty**" (Hobbesian): Public (political) body does not coerce into private action

- from death (Hobbes),
- from interfering of public power into private interest (Locke)

- absence of coercion or interference with agents' private actions

(2) **Positive Liberty**

- to take autonomous action, to use resources (Kant, Hegel, Marx)

St. Augustine (City of God, 426 AD)

avarice and **self-love** that distinguish the behavior of fallen man manifest themselves above all in what Augustine calls **libido dominandi**: the **desire** to **rule** and **control**.

John Locke (2nd treatise on government, 1689)

liberty is one of the natural rights (life, liberty, property)

The natural liberty of man is to be: (1) free from any superior power on earth, (2) and not to be under the will or legislative authority of man, (3) but to have only the law of nature for his rule.

→ duties of a man: not to kill, enslave, or steal

Political representation blocks attacks on liberty from the government

Can a man be free without possessing property?

¹ metaethics - way to speak about ethics, not a set of norms per se.

Freedom as necessity

Benedict Spinoza (1660s) - deterministic view on freedom

Deity → natural law → necessity → Freedom

Freedom defines itself

→ Hegel (idealistic) and Marx (materialistic view on freedom)

Kant: freedom is the basis of politics (or Hegel?)

Collective vs Individual liberty

Charles Taylor - communitarianism (Anti-Marxist collectivism)

- right to recognition of a community (any social group)
- to define borders of a community
- to take collective action

Performative liberty

Arendt: freedom as free will (Maximus the Confessor): Gnostic and Divine will

According to her Freedom is the ability to start something new - to possess agency to fight determination, practice,