

GENEALOGICAL CRITIQUES MATTER (BUT NOT FOR THE REASONS YOU MIGHT HAVE THOUGHT)

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Abstract

Sharon Street's "Darwinian Dilemma" has received a good deal of attention in the recent metaethics literature. Reactions vary, but many have concluded that the *genealogical* aspects of Street's argument are otiose: It matters whether realists can offer an account of the reliability of moral beliefs, but the causal origins of those beliefs doesn't preclude realists' doing so. What's more, even Street seems to agree that the *particular* causal story is irrelevant. In this paper, I show how it can matter whether we have a good causal explanation of our moral judgements. It can even matter what that story is.