

Writing and the moral self

Routledge - Moral Awareness

American Studies
214 301 Fall 2002

Final Writing Assignment

This assignment gives you a chance to examine the Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin to a greater depth. It is also a chance for you to work together with your colleagues on developing writing skills. The final paper will be a synthesis of what you have learned in participation in the pre-writing and group editing activities as well as important in the final product.

What to Do for Class #5:

Consider the following three questions.

1. In what sense is Benjamin Franklin a "self-made man"? Does the Autobiography help him achieve this status? How does he do it? By the end of the class, do students endorse his goal when he writes the Autobiography?

2. In "The Way to Wealth," Benjamin Franklin attempts to lay the foundations and give the reader a guide to success. In what ways does the Autobiography reflect this sense of freedom? By contrast, as found in *Deacon in American Lives* (1923), the reverent David Hosack, a physician and naturalist, reflects on the importance of God's role in giving us our vision of self-mastery and moral perfection. With whom do you agree? Is Franklin's view more practical or more idealistic?

3. Choose a portion by Benjamin Franklin, either one that you have written down, one that you identify through research, or one that you can present in the form of a reading or the like. As a class, discuss the portion you have chosen. What does it tell us about Franklin's understanding of the self in eighteenth century America? You may focus on any aspect of the portion you choose, such as the nature of the self, the relationship between the self and society, specifically about the pursuit of happiness. (Please note: if you want to read the text for this portion of the assignment, you may do so in the original or in the translation in *Reading About the American Revolution* by James M. McPherson, published by the publishing firm Peter Lang (1968) or see the Web site of the National Gallery of Art in Washington.)

You do not have to write a finished paper for class #5. You do not even have to write a complete composition. You may simply write down the answers to the questions above. You may also write the first paragraph of what would be a essay, and then, in office time, give comments or quotes that support your answer to each question.

That's it. Make any part of this portion of the assignment what you want it to be. You will be working in class #5, pre-writing and workshop activities. The aim of these activities is to help you figure out what you want to say. Please take this assignment seriously. I am looking forward to what you will write.

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Description:-

Style (Philosophy)

English language -- Philosophy

Language and ethics Writing and the moral self

-Writing and the moral self

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Tags: #The Principle #of Beneficence #in Applied Ethics #(Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy)

Ethics: Franklin vs. The Puritans

Hilde Lindemann argues that caregiving exhibits key features of what she calls the practice of personhood of knowing when and how to hold and let go of parts of others identities Lindemann 2014.

15 Best Short Moral Stories to Make You Rethink Your Life

This method, of course, does not provide an automatic solution to moral problems. In ordinary language, the notion is broad, but it is understood even more broadly in ethical theory to include effectively all norms, dispositions, and actions with the goal of benefiting or promoting the good of other persons. We are not a HIVE or a HERD but that seems to be what some want us to be.

Ethics and Morality

Intersectional theories of selfhood brought forward by African American feminists note that stratifications of social identities such as gender, race, and class do not operate in isolation from one another Williams 1991; Crenshaw 1993. According to these philosophers, what makes human beings different from mere things is that people have dignity based on their ability to choose freely what they will do with their lives, and they have a fundamental moral right to have these choices respected.

The Principle of Beneficence in Applied Ethics (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy)

And it is also very common for first-time readers of Hobbes to get the impression that he believes we are all basically selfish.

Four Kinds of Moral Inventory

The next day, all the animals in the forest were running in fear. While intersectional theorists bring forward race, class, ability, and other socioeconomic markers as central to psychical-historical locations of agency, power, and connectivity, a number of feminists are increasingly paying attention to somatic and organic factors in selfhood. And these were the things they railed against night and day, in public, knowing that the same charges would not be levelled at them by their peers.

Feminist Perspectives on the Self (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy)

Hobbes does not suppose that we are all selfish, that we are all cowards, or that we are all desperately concerned with how others see us.

Morality and the Self

It would be improper to assert that he supports the current platform of the party he has always supported in the past.

Morality and the Self

Moral excellence comes by degrees, and not all supererogatory acts of beneficence or benevolent dispositions are exceptionally arduous, costly, or risky. Maybe, instead, we want to say it is fitting because it is evolutionarily adaptive in the way that is.

Related Books

- [Shimin kakumei shisō no tenkai](#)
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