Sexuality and Moral Agent in the Evolutionary Approaches to Ethics

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Abstract

People's moral actions can be analyzed differently according to the theoretical principles of distinct psychological views, and the scope of difference among them may be extended to gender discrimination. The analysis of moral agency is influenced by the hypothesis of Darwinian Evolution due to its broad and strong impact on the field of physiology and others. Thus, theorists have advanced explanations appropriate to the foundations of evolutionary trends in these fields. The present study seeks first to consider the principles influential in moral agency according to the theory of evolution, second to explore some desires and actions which directly or indirectly come from dispositions or the moral kind of agency, and third to analyze the role of sexuality in moral agency. It may be supported by the study of views about evolutionary ethics that human will and responsibility are affected by principles, foundations, and explanations based on the theory of evolution and its consequences. The fact that there are evolutionary explanations as to certain moral phenomena such as sympathy, care, commitment, and aggression can make it suitable to follow from this standpoint the debate on whether ethics can be affected by sex or not.

Keywords

Moral psychology, evolutionary ethics, evolution and ethics, Darwinism, sex, moral agent

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