

The Thought-Provoking Insights of Anscombe's Moral Philosophy: Examining the Influence of Duncan Richter

When it comes to moral philosophy, there are few names as revered as G.E.M. Anscombe. Her influential work has shaped the way we think about ethics and morality, presenting thought-provoking insights that continue to resonate to this day. One individual who has delved deep into Anscombe's philosophy and added his own unique perspective is Duncan Richter. In this article, we will explore the enduring impact of Anscombe's moral philosophy and the contributions of Duncan Richter.

The Influence of G.E.M. Anscombe

G.E.M. Anscombe was an extraordinary philosopher whose work focused on moral philosophy, metaphysics, and philosophy of mind. Her extensive contributions to these fields have left a lasting imprint on the discipline, challenging traditional ways of thinking and inspiring subsequent generations of philosophers.

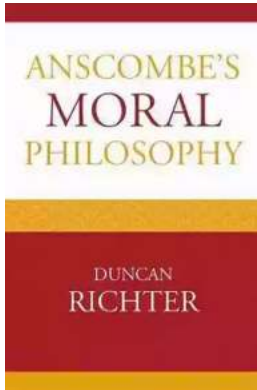
One of her most famous works, "Modern Moral Philosophy," published in 1958, boldly critiqued prevailing ethical theories and called for a reexamination of moral concepts. Anscombe argued that traditional moral philosophy lacked a foundation in virtue ethics, an approach that emphasizes moral character and virtues rather than moral rules or consequences.

Anscombe's Moral Philosophy

by Duncan Richter(Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English



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Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
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Print length	: 190 pages



Anscombe's powerful critique of utilitarianism and deontological ethics sparked a resurgence of interest in virtue ethics, prompting philosophers to explore the significance of character and virtue in moral decision-making. Her ideas continue to shape contemporary moral philosophy, providing a fresh lens through which we can approach complex moral dilemmas.

The Contributions of Duncan Richter

Duncan Richter, a renowned philosopher and scholar, has been deeply influenced by G.E.M. Anscombe's moral philosophy. Building upon her work, Richter has added his own insightful perspectives, expanding upon the foundations laid by Anscombe.

Richter's exploration of Anscombe's philosophy revolves around the concept of moral perception. He argues that moral perception allows individuals to recognize and respond to moral truths in a way that is analogous to sensory perception. Richter contends that moral perception is a fundamental aspect of our moral lives, enabling us to perceive moral qualities in actions and situations.

Moreover, Richter emphasizes the importance of developing moral perception through practices and habits. He contends that our ability to make moral judgments can be refined and honed over time, just as we can improve our sensory perception through practice and training.

Richter's work on moral perception aligns closely with Anscombe's emphasis on moral character and the cultivation of virtues. He acknowledges the significance of virtue ethics and proposes a framework that integrates Anscombe's moral philosophy with modern advancements in moral psychology.

The Intersection of Anscombe and Richter's Philosophies

When exploring the intersection of Anscombe and Richter's philosophies, a clear and compelling picture emerges. Both philosophers emphasize the importance of character and virtues in moral decision-making, challenging the prevalent focus on rules and consequences.

Anscombe's critique of traditional moral philosophy resonates with Richter, who argues for a shift in our approach to moral reasoning. They both advocate for a deeper understanding of moral perception and the cultivation of virtues, highlighting the role of practices and habits in shaping moral character.

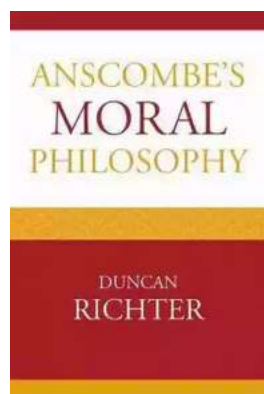
By building upon Anscombe's moral philosophy, Duncan Richter expands the discourse surrounding moral perception and character, offering valuable insights into how we can live morally responsible lives. His work serves as a testament to the enduring influence of Anscombe's philosophy and its continued relevance in contemporary ethical debates.

The Significance of Anscombe and Richter's Contributions Today

In today's complex world, where moral issues abound, the insights provided by G.E.M. Anscombe's moral philosophy are more relevant than ever. Her critique of deontological and utilitarian ethics offers a compelling alternative perspective, emphasizing the importance of character, virtue, and moral perception.

Similarly, Duncan Richter's contributions build upon the foundations laid by Anscombe, deepening our understanding of moral perception and offering practical guidance on cultivating moral character. By recognizing and appreciating the significance of Anscombe and Richter's philosophies, we can develop a more nuanced and ethically informed approach to the challenges we face in our personal and collective lives.

, G.E.M. Anscombe's moral philosophy continues to inspire and challenge contemporary moral thinking. Duncan Richter's work has further enriched our understanding of Anscombe's ideas, shedding light on the importance of moral perception and character. By delving into their insights, we can cultivate a more thoughtful, virtuous, and morally responsible society.



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G.E.M. Anscombe (1919-2001) was one of the most important, outspoken, and misunderstood philosophers of the twentieth century. More than anyone else she revived virtue ethics and the philosophy of action. She was also almost alone in publicly opposing Oxford University's decision to award an honorary degree to President Truman. She regarded his decision to authorize bombing Hiroshima and Nagasaki as murderous. Some liberals admire her for this stand, but conservatives also admire her for her opposition to abortion, contraception, and same-sex marriage. Clearly her values were not those of her times. This led her to reflect on the differences, producing such works as *Modern Moral Philosophy*, in which she rejected all modern theories of ethics. In this paper she coins the term 'consequentialism' to describe the dominant view, which she rejects, that what matters morally is the results of what one does. Put crudely, the ends can justify the means. If enough lives can be saved by targeting civilians, then civilians should be targeted. Against this, Anscombe insisted that certain actions are forbidden, which prompted her interest in the nature of action and its relation to a person's character. Whether one agrees with her or not, these are all issues that continue to be relevant and on which Anscombe's views are always strong and intelligently defended. Her presentation of these views, unfortunately, is often dense, and they are often badly misunderstood even by some very able minds. Anscombe's *Moral Philosophy* clarifies what Anscombe thought about ethics, showing how her different ideas connect and how she supported them. It also evaluates her reasoning, showing that it is stronger in some parts than in others. The five main chapters of the book deal in turn with her work on military ethics (including the so-called doctrine of double effect), her rejection of consequentialism, her attack on the modern, atheist notion of moral obligation, her analysis of intention and its relevance for ethics, and her controversial ideas about sex.



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