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Present-day American Moral Philosophy

Takashi Koizumi

I have tried in this paper, first, to describe main trends of present-day American moral philosophy and, second, to give a list of the important books and articles written by those philosophers who are representatives of the trends. I adopt the categories which are coined by Professor William K. Frankena of the University of Michigan and are ordinarily made use of in American philosophy: normative ethics and meta-ethics.

Meta-ethics is still further subdivided into four: ethical naturalism, anti-descriptivism, intuitionism, and others.

The list of books and articles follows the order of the categories mentioned above. I choose the books which are the most important and are very often debated by many philosophers in the field of normative ethics and meta-ethics, and the articles which I find important in the following magazines from 1930 to January 1962:—

Ethics,
Journal of Philosophy,
Mind,
Philosophical Quarterly,
Philosophical Review,
Philosophical Studies,
Philosophy and Phenomenological Research.