

Contemporary Moral Problems

Chapter: The need for more than justice

Amazonlink:

<http://www.amazon.com/Contemporary-Moral-Problems-James-White/dp/0534517242>

What I expect to learn:

- To learn what is ethical and what is not is the justice system

Quote:

“If forcing a man to testify against himself, or forbidding him to speak, does the damage that the rights against self-incrimination and the right of free speech assume, then it would be contemptuous for the state to tell a man that he must suffer this damage against the possibility that other men’s risk for loss may be marginally reduced.”

Book Review:

Annette C. Baier is a well-known moral philosopher and Hume scholar, focusing in particular on Hume’s moral psychology. She is well known for her contributions to feminist philosophy and to the philosophy of mind, where she was strongly influenced by her former colleague, Wilfrid Sellars. Her husband is philosopher Kurt Baier.

The author’s approach to ethics is that women and men make their decisions about right and wrong based on different value systems: men take their moral decisions according to an idea of justice, while women are motivated by a sense of trust or caring. The history of philosophy having been overwhelmingly compiled by men, she suggests, leads to a body of thought which apparently ignores the role of nurture and trust in human philosophy.

Justice as fairness and was given to us and we should protect this. We need to know and renew and apply those values of the past to our present.

What I have learned:

- I learned that justice should be given to people
- I learned that unanimity is required for a better society

Integrative Question:

1. What is a right?
2. What is equality?
3. Is it a right to have equality?
4. Is everything right for us just?
5. How can we know if things are just?

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Annette_Baier