

710 LECTURE

ALTERNATIVE POSSIBILITIES

I. ALTERNATE POSSIBILITIES

A. Pap: Person is only responsible for what he is done if he could have done otherwise. But the principle of alternative possibilities is false.

B. Jones:

1. Coercion and alternative possibilities
2. It's only if you did the thing you did because of the coercion that we think it is unfair. This is illustrated by Jones
 - a) **JONES 1: HE PLANS ON DOING X, IS THEN THREATENED WITH Y IF HE DOESN'T DO X. HE DOES X BECAUSE OF HIS PLANS. HE'S AN UNREASONABLE MAN UNMOVED BY THREAT.**
 - b) **JONES 2: HE DOES X BECAUSE OF THE COERCION WHICH OVERWHELMED HIM.**
 - c) **JONES 3: JONES 3: NEITHER "STAMPEDED BY THE THREAT NOR INDIFFERENT TO IT."**

C. This calls PAP into question

1. Jones 3 is either responsible even though he was coerced.
2. Or not coerced.
3. In any event, the problem with Jones is whether or not he was moved by something other than his own reason.

D. Response

1. Jones was not really "coerced"
2. Enter Black and Jones 4
 - a) **JONES 4: WILL BE UNINTERFERED WITH UNLESS HE DOESN'T DO X OF HIS OWN ACCORD WHICH HE DOES.**

E. Upshot

1. Circumstances that make it unavoidable that you do something may not be the cause of your doing something.
2. Even revising the principle to say: A person is not morally responsible for what he has done if he did because he could not have done otherwise.
3. A person is not morally responsible for what he has done if he did it *only* because he could not have done otherwise.

II. SANITY

A. The importance of being sane

B. Deep Self view

1. Frankfurt
 - a) **FREE WILL VERSUS**
 - b) **FREE ACTION**
 - c) **SECOND ORDER DESIRES**
2. Watson
 - a) **VALUES**
3. Taylor
 - a) **REFLECTION**
4. Values
 - a) **EXPLAINS PRETHEORETIC INTUITIONS ABOUT KLEPTOS**
 - b) **RESPONDS TO DETERMINISM**
 - c) **YOU ARE PART OF THE CAUSAL CHAIN**
5. Drawbacks
 - a) **STILL NOT YOURS — BEYOND CONTROL ARGUMENT**
 - b) **ETERNAL REGRESS OF DESIRES, REFLECTION, VALUES**
 - c) **EVEN INDETERMINISM DOESN'T HELP.**
 - d) **WHAT REALLY MAKES YOU YOU.**

C. The Problem: Jojo the dictator's boy

1. Is he responsible?
2. He has not control over his deep self and his deep self is fucked up!!
3. Sanity is a certain connection to the world.
4. Deep self is necessary but not sufficient.

D. Sanity

1. Have one's beliefs controlled by perceptions and sound reasoning that produce an accurate conception of the world, rather than by blind or distorted forms of response.
2. Jojo is death with.
 - a) **AS ARE NAZIS**
 - b) **SLAVEOWNERS**
 - c) **AND SEXISTS**
3. Unavoidability
 - a) **OUR DEEP SELVES ARE UNAVOIDABLE**
 - b) **SANITY ALLOWS SELF EVALUATION IN A REASONABLE WAY.**

E. Self creation

1. Accurate evaluation
2. Transformation.

F. Objections

1. Why am I sane? We just agree that you are.
2. Isn't every moral failure insanity? The question is not whether you did the right thing it's whether you *could* have.