

THE FRAGMENTATION OF MORALS AND OF MORAL PHILOSOPHY

Even the most naïve social observers must admit that in every modern society there is a plurality of moral codes. This moral fragmentation of modern society is in part a result of ^{*the division of labor as well as of*} social stratification and social conflict. And in turn it is reflected in the fragmentation of contemporary moral philosophy: "Moral philosophy, as it is dominantly understood, reflects the debates and disagreements of the culture so faithfully that its controversies turn out to be unresolvable just in the way that the political and moral debates themselves are" (MacIntyre 1984 p. 252). "The history of morality-and-moral-philosophy is the history of successive challenges to some pre-existing moral order, a history in which the question of which party defeated the other in rational argument is always to be distinguished from the question of which party retained or gained social and political hegemony" (ibid. p. 269).

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