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MORAL FEELINGS

PASSION, REASON, & MORALS

Hume was right in asserting that passion drives action, wrong in denying that reason can check passion. Kant was right in asserting that reason ought to guide human action, wrong in claiming that all passion is evil. And both Hume and Kant were wrong in opposing passion to reason, for it is possible to be a passionate rationalist, i.e. to blend passion and reason--e.g. to defend reason in a passionate way, ^{as well as} and to study passion in a rational fashion. Morality and action need both reason and passion. Without these two morality becomes (as in Kant)-a dry prescription which no real person would care to practice or defend, and the law becomes (as in Kelsen) an equally bloodless body of alien norms incapable of inspiring enthusiasm for or against. (See Hegel 18 *for a similar thesis.)

*Vorlesungen über die Philosophie der Geschichte.

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