

PREFERENCES: INADEQUATE BASIS FOR MORALITY.

It is impossible to base a morality on people's manifest preferences for these are often irrational or antiformal. As for "true preferences", those a person would have if he were fully rational, well-informed, and benevolent, they are equally inadequate for being figments of the philosopher's imagination. In order to find a suitable foundation for morality we must turn from preferences to objective needs, legitimate wants, and inescapable duties (in the 1st Plea work).

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