

ROBOT MORALITY

A robot can certainly be programmed in such a way that it won't harm its master, but it may be ordered to harm others and, in any case, it does not face any moral problems. It does not face them because it has no moral feelings and, indeed, no feelings at all, not even basic emotions such as rage, fright, pain, or pleasure. In short, robots are not moral agents: they are only tools of moral agents. Hence they can only be said to be good or bad, harmless or evil, by proxy.

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