

February 9, 2016

Topic: What is Ethics?

- I. Branches of Ethics
 - a. Normative Ethics: develops theories about right actions; gives norms to act and theoretical methods for their establishment
 - i. Consequentialism: determines the RIGHT from the GOOD
 1. An action is morally right, if and only if it maximizes the utility
 - ii. Deontology: determines the RIGHT of an action from its conformity to pre-established moral norms and principles of the Right
 1. An action is morally right, if and only if it is done out of the duty (agent-centered)/the right (patient-centered)
 - iii. Virtue Ethics: emphasizes on (virtuous) motive, moral sentiment, moral evaluation, good character traits, the ethical goals of life...etc.
 1. An action is morally right, if and only if it is done out of one's virtuous character trait (on in the way that a virtuous person would do)
- II. Meta-Ethics
 - a. Investigates ethical theories, principles, and notions about the Right and the Good
 - i. Metaphysical: examination on the morality
 - ii. Epistemological: justification of the truth of moral knowledge
 - b. Applied Ethics
 - i. Applying moral theories to ethically controversial social issues that need our moral decisions

Topic: The First Philosopher Socrates

- I. The Beginning of Humanities
 - a. Literature – Homer (8th century BCE)
 - b. History – Herodotus (484-425 BCE)
 - c. Philosophy – Socrates (469-399 BCE)
 - d. Commonality: ALL are searching the principles of humanities
 - e. Differences: WHERE the principles lies
- II. Pre-Socratic Philosophy