

Temperance

Structure of Temperance

- Dimension= indulgence
 - Excess- self-indulgence
 - Deficiency- self-deprivation
 - "Self-control"
- Deals with pleasures of the body, not of the soul
 - Hard to separate body and soul, though (Fowers says nevermind about this)
- Self-indulgence and immaturity
 - Classic case of immaturity
 - Esp. in young children- no capacity for self control (develops in frontal cortex)
- Intemperance: when pleasure becomes the most important goal
 - Hedonism

Aristotle's definition- the appetite of the temperate man is direc

Appetites:

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----|--------------------|
| • Natural Desires: | vs. | Traditional Vices: |
| ○ Food | | Gluttony |
| ○ Sex | | Lust |
| ○ Wealth | | Greed |
| ○ Power | | Envy |
| ○ Recognition or honor | | Pride |
| ○ Carefreeness | | Sloth |

Addiction as Intemperance

- Addiction to what?
 - Food
 - Sex
 - Exercise
 - Substances
 - ANYTHING
- Structure of addiction
 - Avoidance- humans respond to reinforcement (positive or negative); we avoid situations that bother us (negative reinforcement) and addictions are positive reinforcement
 - Insatiability- avoidance works so well and helps us feel better so we want more
 - Effect on pleasure center- becomes harder to get pleasure from other things, only addiction gives pleasure
- Pathway to bestial character

Emotions

- Can emotions be self-indulgent? Yes (i.e. self pity)
- Can emotions be self-depriving? Yes
- What is “right emotion?”
 - Anger (self-respect, justice vs. wrath)
 - Sadness
 - Happiness

Temperance and Community

- Self-regarding and other regarding virtues- how people try to harmonize virtue ethics and other modern ethics
 - How some virtues involve relationships; temperance is not just about the self
 - Fowers thinks all virtues have a social level
- How does temperance affect relationships:
 - Unregulated emotion
 - Addiction
- How does intemperance affect communities?
 - Road rage
 - Extreme competitiveness
 - Addiction
 - Justice
- How do communities or societies encourage (in)temperance?
 - Consumerism
 - Savings rate/credit
 - Drinking/ drugging
 - Religious teachings
 - Traditions of self-transcendence
 - Youth organizations (church, sports)

Justice

Structure of Justice

- Dimension= advantage distribution (or distributing burdens or obligations)
 - Excess= taking advantage
 - Aristotle only talks about excess
 - Deficiency= giving up advantage
- Justice as a virtue and a good
 - We can be a just person
 - We can have justice

Virtue:

Aspects- equity, merit, reward/punishment, reciprocity

In certain situations we should prioritize different aspects of justice

Good:

A just arrangement among people

We get to the good by acting justly

Reward and punishment have been around throughout human history

There is no way to justice, justice is the way

What is Justice?

- Equality?
- A matter of merit?
- A matter of reward and punishment?
- Reciprocity?
- The result of exercise of power?
 - Complicated relationship between power and justice

Justice and the Community

- Justice is the activity of just people- procedures are never enough
 - We need people to act it out!
- Injustice is divisive- have and have nots
 - Having a lot more than others is a burden
- Basic needs require relative equality
 - Right vs. privilege
- Inequality and justification
 - Desert- merit
 - Ideology- justice system always subject to ideology
 - Ex. slavery/ Dred Scott decision