

David hume's moral philosophy analysis

[Philosophy](#)



In my opinion, David Hume's moral philosophy is the best suited for business and decision-making process because it proclaims the principles justice, charity, benevolence, and patience. Moreover, Hume argues that ethics should play an important role in decision-making process as it gives thinkers an opportunity to make such a decision won't oppose anybody's suggestions or preferences.

He says that a moral agent is motivated by character traits which nature is either virtuous or vicious. If a person is willing to donate money or things for charity, his actions are motivated by virtuous traits. In business decision-making, he notes, such traits should be natural and instinctive, and only in such a person will make really ethical decisions. Hume's moral philosophy is distinct and exact. (Fieser 2006)

For example, Hume clearly divides qualities into virtuous and vice. The natural virtues are meekness, generosity, charity and benevolence, whereas artificial or vice virtues are chastity, greediness, dishonesty, and keeping promises. It seems that Hume places qualities needed for a well-ordered state as artificial. I think that in such a way he wants to show that business and decision-making should be natural and instinctive.

Agents are provided with psychological roles, though in certain situations a person may refer to more than one entrusted role. (Fieser 2006) David Hume concludes that there are four categories of qualities necessary for moral business running and decision-making:

1. Qualities useful for others: charity, fidelity, meekness, and benevolence;

2. Qualities useful for oneself: patience and perseverance;
3. Qualities agreeable to others: cleanliness, eloquence, and wit;
4. Qualities agreeable to oneself: pride, humor, and self-esteem.

Actually, David Hume discusses all the qualities which are considered the core of adequate business running. It is necessary to mention that to make really ethical decision means to use trained sensitivity to ethical issues.

(Fieser 2006)

References

Fieser, Jame. (2006). Hume's Moral Theory. Retrieved November 14, 2007, from <http://www.iep.utm.edu/h/humemora.htm>