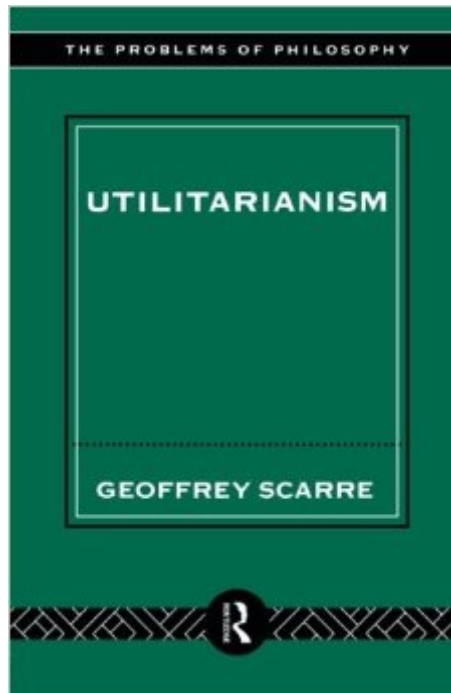


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Utilitarianism (Problems Of Philosophy)



Synopsis

Surveying the historical development and the present condition of utilitarian ethics, Geoffrey Scarre examines the major philosophers from Lao Tzu in the fifth century BC to Richard Hare in the twentieth. Utilitarianism traces the 'doctrine of utility' from the moralists of the ancient world, through the Enlightenment and Victorian utilitarianism up to the lively debate of the present day.

Utilitarianism today faces challenges on several fronts: it cannot warrant the drawing of adequate protective boundaries around the essential interests of individuals, and it does not allow them the space to pursue the personal concerns which give meaning to their lives. Geoffrey Scarre considers these and other charges, and concludes that whilst utilitarianism may not be a faultless moral doctrine, its positions are relevant, and significant today. Written with undergraduates in mind, this is an ideal course book for those studying and those teaching moral philosophy.

Book Information

Series: Problems of Philosophy

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Routledge; First Edition edition (June 28, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0415121973

ISBN-13: 978-0415121972

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (1 customer review)

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Geoffrey Scarre writes lucidly about the prevalent morality of Utilitarianism. He begins by discussing the earliest forms of the theory and progresses to more recent adaptations of it. In this brilliant book he offers an introduction to the theory while at the same time it is very in depth and suitable for post-grads. Scarre makes a much talked about theory very interesting and put forwards new and intelligent ideas.

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