

Original Paper

A Probe into the Path of the Moral Issues From the Perspective of Marxist Philosophy's Practical Existence Theory

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Abstract

In the present era of the rapid development of market-oriented economy, the strangeness between people, the division of production and the diversity of occupations, and the different thinking ways of individual lead everyone to stand in their own position. As a result, the western tragedy appears and the social moral problems are becoming more and more serious. Marx turns his philosophical attention to the way of human existence—practical activities and their historical development. This paper analyzes the current moral problems from the perspective of Marxist practical existentialism. The rational path of virtue is to regard people as a rational being and its acquirement mainly depends on the intellect to overcome the perceptual preference. The spiritual path of virtue regards human as a spiritual being and its acquisition is through dialectical deduction of spirit itself. The practical path of virtue is to emphasize human's perceptual activity and understand and manage things through practical activities.

Keywords

Marxist philosophy, practical path, virtue

Ancient Greek philosopher Socrates put forward “virtue is knowledge”. Modern philosopher Bacon put forward “knowledge is power”. Now the society is full of the concept of “virtue is power”. People are concerned about the lower standard of social ethics. The problem of honesty and credit under the market—oriented economy is not only a moral issue but also a problem of law. The morality, values and believes of contemporary people should be solved by ourselves. The core of Marxist philosophy is practice, which emphasizes neither matter nor consciousness, but practice between the two. Morality consists of rational, spiritual and practical paths, which has an enlightening significance in building up one's morality.

1. The Analysis of Three Moral Paths Based on the Theory of Practical Existence.

1.1 *The Rational Path of Virtue*

The rational path of virtue regards man as a rational being. In order to follow it, one has to reasonably overcome the sensitive preference. The spiritual path of virtue regards man as a spiritual being, and its acquisition is realized by the dialectical deduction of the spirit itself.

In the West, Socrates, the ancient Greek philosopher, first put forward “what kind of life should we live”, so Socrates proposed that people should live a life of virtue and he interpreted knowledge as virtue. Plato, on the basis of Socrates, then asked, “how should man worry about the soul”. He divided the human soul into reason, passion, and desire. Human virtue came from the influence of the soul.

The ancient Greek master in philosophy, Aristotle, proposed that man is a rational being after inheriting the philosophy of Socrates and Plato. The understanding of the problem of virtue can be accordingly divided into two kinds: one is the intellectual virtue; the other is a moral reason. However, Thomas Aquila in Medieval Age would divide ration into human reason and the reason of God. Thomas. Aquila based on Aristotle’s theory to improve Christian theology, which makes the religious belief rule ration again. Thomas believed that man’s virtue derived from the overcome of evil habits and the control of one’s desire and would guide people to live a happy life; the powerful virtue of God came into being by himself and led people to lead a natural life.

In the moral philosophy, a basic definition of man is that man is a rational being and reason is the very symbol of an individual, which is put forward by Kant in modern times. As a kind of moral force, virtue overcomes the influence of perceptual preference in practice in order to stick to the law of obligation. Actually virtue becomes the ability and power of reason.

Virtue is actually the moral quality cultivated by the deduction and balance of reason. This attaches great value to the idea of virtue, helps people grasp the knowledge of virtue as soon as possible, and forms good moral behavior in practice.

1.2 *The Spiritual Path of Virtue*

Hegel’s spiritual philosophy has opened up a new research path in the traditional study of virtue, that is, the spiritual path of virtue. What is spiritual philosophy? Jiangsu University, Nanjing, China “Spirit” is one of the most basic concepts in Hegel’s spiritual philosophy. Hegel divides the world into two kinds of opposite existence of nature and spirit, and the spirit comes from nature. At the same time, it exists in the truth of natural existence. The dialectics of spirit and its various forms of development and any development of anything needs the function and promotion of the spirit. The inner spirit obeys the law of negation and negation of negation in order to realize the complete development of the spirit itself and to return to the overall nature of the spirit itself. In the process of development and redevelopment, there are three forms: subjective spirit, objective spirit and absolute spirit. The inner development of spirit goes through three stages in turn: abstract law, morality and ethics.

When virtue was born at the very beginning, it was shown as the attacking ability of things and the

excellent character. Later, virtue is applied to people and becomes an inherent moral quality of man. Virtue therefore refers exclusively to the virtue of man. What belongs to man, according to Hegel's meaning, is what belongs to the spirit. Everything in the world is the result of man's spiritual action. The acquisition of man's virtue actually requires human's inner effort. Virtue is the result of human's spiritual activity and has actually become a kind of spirit.

1.3 The Practical path of Virtue

The past existentialism defines that the presence of people is outside the world, and to pursue it will inevitably lead to isolation and separation. In Heidegger's opinion, this is called the ignorance of existence, which turns the existence into a specific item. Of course this is Parmenides who brought it to thinking that what you are able to think can be consistent with what is able to exist. So philosophers find the nominalization of the verb "exist". In the view of ancient Greek philosophers, the object is the world of reason; God, the medieval ages; and modern Descartes put the object as the self.

This causes great side effect. If there is a world of reason, we will have no freedom because in the world human rationality is very small and extremely limited; if being is man himself, he declares that God is dead and man boasts his own mythology. The category of being cannot be interpreted in finite terms, for it cannot be obtained by abstraction. The finite needs infinite explanation. Then the study of existence can only be done through the existence of the existent items and behavior to make the existence appear and manifest and let it in the side of people. For example: looking at the mobile phone on the table, I focus on the mobile phone. I do not look at the table, but the phone show up when I look at the table. So, it is no longer a dichotomy between the subject and the object and no longer the objectified thought. Looking through all the works of Marx and considering all the philosophical theories, we can see that the core of Marx is practice, which emphasizes neither matter nor consciousness, but practice between them.

2. Conclusion

Based on the perspective of practical existentialism of Marxist philosophy, and combined with the increasingly prominent social moral issues, this paper analyzes the rational path, spiritual path and practical path of virtue and the research on the three paths of virtue, and points out the challenges that social moral problems will bring to the development of virtue. We can study from the three paths of virtue and solve the problem of social morality in the future. Compared with the traditional rational path and the spiritual path, the new way of practice will play a more and more important role.

The moral problems in society are caused eventually by the strangeness between people, the division of labor and occupation and lack of timely communication. The difference in each person's way of thinking leads everyone to stand in his own position, resulting in a Western-style tragedy. That is, the opposite side of the conflict has its own justification, while each side sticks to his own purpose and character. The real content of one's own purpose and character can only be negated or destroyed by

both sides. To solve this kind of social and moral problems which are extended by people themselves, the three paths of virtue can be used very well. I believe that in the future, people will pay more attention to this kind of research.

At the same time, the theory of virtue is an excellent way to solve the contemporary moral crisis. This paper illustrating that from the three paths of virtue also has important practical significance; Virtue is also of great value to individuals and society. Virtue makes people become people, makes people consciously pursue good life, and is also the order of human mind. Today, with the enthusiastic construction of market—oriented economy, we should choose the good and discard the bad when facing the various virtues throughout history. We should cultivate individual virtue and promote social virtue. We should deepen the research of moral theory, pay attention to the cultivation of virtue practice and promote the overall and harmonious development of society. So we can solve and analyze the moral problems appearing in contemporary China at a deep level, and promote the the new journey of reform and opening up and the construction of modernization.

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