

Summary

Stephen Pepper's Ethical Values

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The thesis confirms the importance of Stephen Pepper's ethical values, through which he contributed immensely in the field of philosophy of values. His vision is: 1- having a physiological theory on the structure of the purposeful act and its resulting values, 2- Selective system is a major base for all the philosophical research that Pepper conducted in the field of ethics, metaphysics, and theory of knowledge. 3- His analysis of the levels of the natural standards for moral judgments.

The first chapter discusses Pepper's life, his publications, and general framework. The second deals with the basics of the general theory of value which is an analysis of purposeful acts and selective system. The third chapter discusses his procedural definition of ethics (including voluntary and involuntary acts and purposeful activity) in order to get to final definition of ethical value. The fourth chapter is dedicated to the study of the ethics of social accordance which Pepper had provided to be the actual application of the concept of moral values, through the concept of selective system, and merging different experimental ethical theories. The fifth chapter deals with Pepper's view and analysis of the levels of natural standards for ethical judgments, starting with purposeful levels to biological levels, and the relationship

between such principles and standards. Finally the sixth chapter explains the linguistic school of ethical values.

The procedure of the thesis is analytical and comparative. The conclusion pinpoints the most important conclusions of the research:

- 1- Stephen Pepper is underrated, being one of the most important philosophers of Value theory, in the 20th century. Although, his philosophic contributions go beyond many American philosophers.
- 2- Stephen Pepper is one of the pioneers of Humanism, in the 20th century, through his constant development of the hidden natural powers of a human being to achieve knowledge of his rights, and duties within the lived framework.
- 3- Pepper's ethical values has no abstract metaphysical thought based on Kantian duty or linguistic intuitions as believed by supporters of the intuitive linguistic of Moor, Ross, and Pritchard school or the emotional linguistic school of Ayer, Stephenson, and Hare. However, they are derived from social rules. That is, the ethical values of Pepper are related to the social reality.
- 4- Pepper's social adjustment theory is a formal theory where he merges the traditional experimental ethical theories together.
- 5- The philosophical thought that Pepper offers is based on Eclecticism which combines different thoughts and doctrines (formalism, contextualism, mechanicism) trying to come up with one system called the selective system.