

# The Central Problem Of Humes Philosophy

## Hume and Contemporary Political Philosophy

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### Introduction

Hume occupies a central, but ambiguous position in contemporary political philosophy. Political philosophers recognize the importance of his analysis of justice as an artificial virtue and his account of convention, his identification of the "conditions of justice," and his criticisms of the social contract. But while it is fairly easy to identify philosophers with acknowledged Aristotelian, Hobbesian, Lockean, Kantian, and Hegelian approaches to political philosophy, Hume has no school and few disciples. It is not as if prominent contemporary political philosophers have not written on Hume. Brian Barry places Hume alongside Rawls as the central figure in his *Theories of Justice*. David Miller wrote the well-received *Philosophy and Ideology in Hume's Political Thought*. Hume has been a constant presence in David Gauthier's work which includes a number of important essays (Gauthier 1979). Nonetheless, none of them are widely thought of as Humeans.<sup>1</sup>

This dearth of a Humean strand of political philosophy is unfortunate since contemporary political philosophy would benefit from more explicit examination of its Humean influence. For example, John Gray tells us that "It is in Hume, indeed, despite his reputation as a conservative theorist, that we find the most powerful defense of the liberal system of limited government." (Gray 1995: 24) Brian Barry claims Hume for the game theoreticians and the utilitarians: "Hume stated with unsurpassed clarity the view of justice as mutual gain over a nonagreement baseline.

<sup>1</sup> The following abbreviations will be used for Hume's works: EMPL: *Essays: Moral, Political, and Literary* (revised edition), edited by Eugene Miller, Indianapolis: Liberty Fund, 1985; EPM: *Enquiry concerning the Principles of Morals*, edited by Tom Beauchamp, Oxford/New York: Oxford University Press, 1998 and T (*A Treatise of Human Nature*, ed. by D. F. Norton and M. J. Norton, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000). References to the *Treatise* and the *Enquiry* cite the book, chapter, section, and paragraph. References to the *Essays* cite page numbers only.

The Central Problem of David Hume's Philosophy. An Essay Towards a Phenomenological Interpretation of the First Book of the Treatise of Human Nature. The central problem of David Hume's philosophy: an essay towards a phenomenological interpretation of the first book of the Treatise of Human Nature / C.V. Hume's main ethical writings are Book 3 of his Treatise of Human Nature. Closely connected with the issue of the foundations of moral norms is the. A master stylist in any genre, his major philosophical works *A Treatise of Human Nature*. The problem with ancient philosophy was its reliance on. Buy *The central problem of David Hume's philosophy* by Christopher Verney Salmon (ISBN:) from Amazon's Book Store. Everyday low prices and free delivery. <sup>12</sup> *The Central Problem of David Hume's Philosophy ; An Essay towards a Phenomenological Interpretation of the First Book of the Treatise of*. DOWNLOAD SOME CENTRAL PROBLEMS IN HUMES PHILOSOPHY some central problems in pdf. Course materials, exam information, and professional. Your download the central problem of david humes philosophy an essay towards a phenomenological interpretation of the first book of voted an scientific. Buy *Book Some Central Problems in Hume's Philosophy*, ISBN: , Author: Daniel, S C. We are much requested s of download the central problem of david humes philosophy an essay towards a phenomenological interpretation of the first book . *The Problem of the National Self in Hume's Theory of Justice*. Donald C. Hume's rejection of the idea of an original contract (the central Whig orthodoxy of his. The isought problem, as articulated by the Scottish philosopher and historian David Hume The question, prompted by Hume's small paragraph, has become one of the central questions of ethical theory, and Hume is usually assigned the. David Hume was a Scottish philosopher, historian, economist, and essayist, *Problems*[show]. Mere addition A major concern of Hume's political philosophy is the importance of the rule of law. He also. This series presents concise, clear, and rigorous analyses of the core problems that preoccupy philosophers across all approaches to the discipline. Each book. <sup>46</sup> What this implies is that religion, however important to Hume, is not essential for understanding the central problems of [his] philosophy. Fogelin, in his.

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