

1. Abstract

Norm Circles and the Case for Moral Realism

Elder-Vass rejects moral realism as incompatible with critical realism. Instead, he argues that the concept of norm circles means that the truth of individual ethical claims is determined by their alignment with the cultural values of the wider society or group. In this paper I argue that, despite this dismissal, Elder-Vass conception of norm circles can be considered as providing a refinement, not a rejection, of the moral realist position.