

“Is Subjective Moral Truth Explanatorily Prior to Objective Moral Truth?”

Abstract: Philosophers argue about whether moral obligation is subjective or objective. While I take this argument to be based on a confusion, I see the arguments offered as relevant to a different question: which is explanatorily prior, subjective moral truth or objective moral truth? I argue that objective moral truth cannot be explanatorily prior, because it matters *how* one takes a risk of doing something objectively wrong, even if the degree of wrongness and the probability of wrongness are held fixed. Thus we cannot settle whether an action is subjectively wrong merely by appeal to considerations of risking objectively wrong action. I argue that if either is prior, it must be subjective moral truth that is prior to objective moral truth.