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NATURE AND CONDUCT

Edited by R.S.Peters

Other contributors:

Renford Bambrough, Anthony Quinton,
Geoffrey Warnock, Ted Honderich,
Christopher Cherry, Ian Gregory,
Justin Gosling, Roger Scruton,
Richard Wollheim, Martin Hollis,
John Watkins, Shirley Letwin,
John Passmore, John Benson,
Richard Hare, Peter Self.

This collection of papers marks a return to some of the major questions raised by the Greeks about the relationship between nature and conduct. These questions have been laid on one side for a long time in philosophy because of the acceptance of the so-called 'naturalistic fallacy' and because of the formalistic character of so much recent work in ethics. They have become more urgent in recent times because of problems posed by phenomena such as violence, human inequality and the pollution of the environment.

The book is divided into four sections. The first deals with general questions about the nature of man and the relevance for conduct of answers to such questions. The second deals with ways in which specific aspects of human nature such as conscience, needs, happiness and role-playing are related to human conduct. In the third section the general question of man's relationship to the natural world is discussed. The final section is concerned with the ethics of environmental planning.

These papers were originally delivered as a series of public lectures organised in 1973-74 by the Royal Institute of Philosophy. The contributors include several leading moral philosophers.

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Edited by
R. S. PETERS

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