

Moral Naturalism

Feminist Ethics According to
Margaret Urban Walker



Moral Naturalism

Morality is a way of replicating
“our” *social* position

Moral Naturalism

Subjectivity

Intersubjectivity

Objectivity

Moral Naturalism

Normativity

“the durability of our understandings
and the trust they support under the
right kinds of tests.”

Walker, pp 109

What Kind of Tests?

Trust

- Certain basic understandings are common
- These common understandings are the main ones that shape our way of life
- That this way of life is worthy of allegiance, effort, restraint, or sacrifice.

Walker, pp 109

Trust

Just ways some people can make others behave

Walker, pp 109

Trust

Give an example of “Just ways some people can make others behave.”

Trust

- Certain basic understandings are common
- These common understandings are the main ones that shape our way of life
- That this way of life is worthy of allegiance, effort, restraint, or sacrifice.

Walker, pp 109

Transparency Testing

Normativity

Are the understandings we think are shared **actually** shared?

Are the understandings we think we have in common **actually** in common?

Reflect

Abortion

What is at stake *Morally*?
Moral Understandings

Morality vs Legality

Marquis

What makes killing a human
wrong is that it robs the
individual of a future-like-ours

Marquis

The Moral Question:
What feature shows that what
makes killing wrong does or
doesn't hold in the case of a
fetus?

Thomson

"The right to life consists not in the
right not to be killed, but rather
in the right not to be killed
unjustly."

Thomson 1971, 57

Thomson

The Moral Question:

What is it about a pregnancy that
makes killing a fetus just or
unjust?

Talk