

Special Issue: SATS: Northern European Journal of Philosophy

Contextual Ethics

Developing Conceptual and Theoretical Approaches

CALL FOR PAPERS

The importance of context is increasingly in focus in contemporary moral philosophy. Among the reasons for this is the popularity of 'ground-up' approaches to a large range of topics such as hope, human nature and moral change. Philosophers engage history, anthropology, literature, and empirical research in order to investigate and answer their questions (e.g. Nussbaum 1990; Lear 2006; Appiah 2008, 2010; Guenther 2013). Another reason is a growing interest in the idea that 'the ethical' cannot be exhaustively captured theoretically but is inherently open and interwoven with numerous aspects of human life; a point developed in the work of moral philosophers such as K.E. Løgstrup, Cora Diamond, Alice Cray and Margaret Urban Walker. Approaches such as these give context ethical prominence.



The prominence of context has important consequences for work in moral philosophy and is central in the developing meta-ethical stance that we have coined 'contextual ethics.' The aim of the proposed issue is to discuss how to integrate contextual concerns into moral philosophy and develop adequate conceptual and theoretical frameworks for contextualized ethics. Its main focus is thus meta-philosophical: how we are to understand and conceptualize a truly contextual form of moral philosophy. Possible themes of the issue include:

- How are we to understand the role of context in moral philosophy? What determines the relevant context and how does the inclusion of context affect philosophical work?
- What is the role of moral theory? Should we continue to consider theories the main product of the philosopher's work or should they rather be conceived of and used as adaptable tools for furthering understanding and analysis in context bound discussions?
- What theoretical and conceptual tools are needed to do contextualized ethics?
- What is the role of the moral philosopher? Is this role changing from that of a theorist in debate with other philosophers, to different roles as author, critic, conceptual designer and discussant in increasingly interdisciplinary and collaborative research ventures?

GUEST-EDITORS of the special issue are Cecilie ERIKSEN, University of Aarhus and Anne-Marie S. CHRISTENSEN, University of Southern Denmark.

Submitted manuscripts should not have been published previously, nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere. All manuscripts should adhere to the guidelines for *SATS: Northern European Journal of Philosophy*, see here: <https://www.degruyter.com/view/j/sats#callForPapersHeader>. Manuscripts relevant for the special issue will be refereed through a peer-review process. Manuscripts should be submitted to: amsc@sdu.dk. Deadline for submission is April 17, 2020.