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THE ETHICS OF ARGUMENTATION

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Abstract

There seems to be no reason why argumentation should be exempt from the ethical constraints and expectations that apply generally to human conduct, so should argumentation have its own ethics? Perhaps “argumentation ethics” denotes a set of ethical issues especially pertinent to argumentation, similarly to business ethics, etc. Furthermore, many argumentation theorists speak of norms and obligations related to argumentation and possibly (some of) these are moral norms or obligations. I explore these issues in the paper in three ways: I examine a number of candidates for immoral argumentation conduct (distinguishing between morality and etiquette in the process); I argue that four particular types of argument are *prima facie* immoral, and consider objections to those claims; lastly, I propose the kinds of contexts and circumstances in which argument obligations are moral obligations.

Thursday, February 11th, 2010

4:00 p.m.

Parker House Lounge

105 Sunset Ave.

All are welcome

