Beauchamp

Outline

Chapter 5

Main Points

The Deontological Concept of Morality
- Deontological views—difference between good and right
- Consequential theory—good is independent of the right

Unitarianism and Deontological (John Rawls)
- Deontological—moral obligation, motive
- Unitarianism—maximum benefit

Kant's Ethics-metaphysics of morality
Three Principles
1) An act must be done from obligation in order to have moral worth
2) An action's moral value is due to the maximum from which it is performed, rather than to its success in realizing some desired end or purpose
3) Obligation is the necessity of an action performed from respect for law

The Idea of a Categorical Imperative
- Every moral agent recognizes (consciously or unconsciously) in accepting an action as morally obligatory
  - "I want X; then I must do Y"
- Prima Face Obligations
  - Kant—two obligations that are equally important
  - Ross—put your obligations in order

Respect for Persons and Respect for Autonomy
- Kant—people are moral if
  1) it is capable of making moral judgments about the rightness and wrongness of actions
  2) it has motives that can be judged morally
- Moral Autonomy—self-governance by giving oneself moral rules
- Individual Autonomy—self-governance by acceptance of any kind of rules or guides to behavior

Principle Respect for Individual Autonomy
- A moral principle of respect for individual autonomy specifies a duty to respect the autonomous actions of others, whether or not these actions conform to moral obligation