



Freedom for Humans

Susan Wolf (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

ABSTRACT

Philosophers have long worried that if determinism is true, we lack the ability to do otherwise that is necessary to justify holding each other responsible. Yet we hold corporations and states responsible, and never seem to worry that determinism would undermine the justifiability of that. Why? This lecture will argue that the problem posed by determinism is misunderstood insofar as it has led us to focus on the ability to do otherwise. If anything is threatened by determinism, it is not our ability to do otherwise, but the meaning that is expressed by our doing what we do. More specifically, determinism makes salient the question of how it is possible for our actions to be expressions of the kinds of selves we take ourselves to be.

Susan Wolf is Edna J. Koury Distinguished Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her research ranges across moral psychology, value theory, and normative ethics. Her most recent book *The Variety of Values: Essays on Morality, Meaning & Love* (2015, Oxford University Press) collects important essays on the topics of morality, love, and meaning,



DATE AND TIME

27 October 2022

4 PM MELBOURNE
10 AM LONDON
1 AM NEW YORK

LOCATION

Mercy Lecture Theatre
17 Young Street
Fitzroy, Victoria

To join the seminar over Zoom,
register at tinyurl.com/DASEME22

To join our Seminar email list or
for other questions, please email
nevin.climenhaga@acu.edu.au.