

J. Edward Hackett

Persons and Values in Pragmatic Phenomenology

Explorations in Moral Metaphysics

SERIES IN PHILOSOPHY OF PERSONALISM

Summary

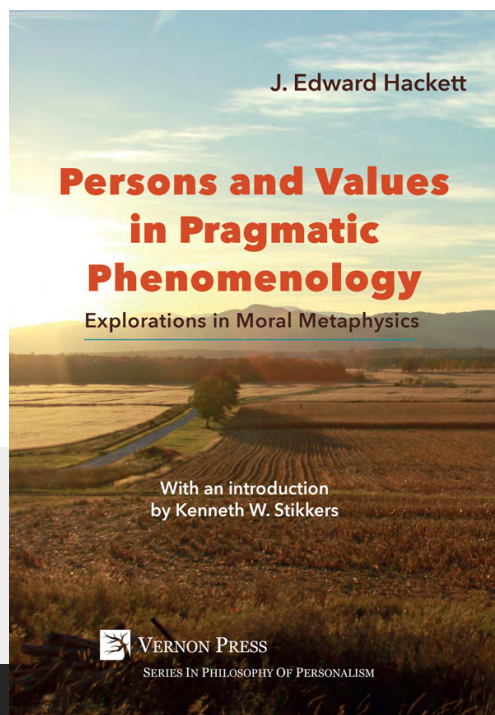
This book brings together the author's overall research trajectory of the last five years of his life and the questions he has been asking himself: What is the person? And, what are values? In answering the latter question, Hackett arrived at an answer within the boundaries of Max Scheler, the German phenomenologist, but consequently started to explore the depths of which Scheler's value ontology was predicated on certain assumptions about the person. From these questions, Hackett started to draw upon philosophical approaches that thematize experience—pragmatism and phenomenology.

Rooted in the philosophical contributions of Scheler and the American philosopher, William James, this book guides the reader through a fascinating exploration of these philosophical approaches in relation to the person and values. Through thematizing experience, this book reveals that the ontology of value for Scheler resides not only in a person's intentionality but also in the being-of-an-act. As such, this book argues that the deficit of an ontology of value in Scheler rests on interpreting his affective intentionality in much the same way that Heidegger employed phenomenology to discern the ontological care structure of Dasein. In other words, for Scheler, the ontology of value rests on the manner in which values were realized by a person's intentionality. Moreover, this book goes further to reveal that the intentional act life is the source of participation and can be understood as a process-based account of value, otherwise known as account participatory realism. Importantly, within participatory realism Hackett addresses how values have their origin in the process of intentionality since intentionality is generative of meaning.

As an important contribution to the field of moral metaphysics, Hackett's critical reflection on the person and values provides a stimulating insight into some of the key debates surrounding pragmatism and phenomenology that will be of great interest to both experienced scholars and researchers, alike.

About the author

J. Edward Hackett is a Lecturer at Savannah State University in Savannah, Georgia. Specializing in ethical theory, phenomenology, and American philosophy he is the co-editor of the anthology *Phenomenology for the Twenty-First Century* and edited *House of Cards and Philosophy* with Wiley Blackwell. Recently, he edited a special issue of *William James Studies* on the connection between phenomenology and pragmatism. Moreover, he's been developing the connection between James, Scheler, and phenomenology with publications in such journals as *Contemporary Pragmatism*, *Comparative and Continental Philosophy*, *Phenomenology and Mind*, *Appraisal*, *William James Studies*, *Journal of Applied Hermeneutics*, and *Forum Philosophicum*. In addition, Hackett's current research includes Zen-Catholicism dialogue, personalism, and Martin Luther King, Jr., applied ethical issues, and pluralism in democracies. He graduated with his PhD from Southern Illinois University in 2013, and he has been married to Ashley since July 30, 2006.



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