

Moral Engines: Exploring the moral drives in human life

Conference 4-6 June 2014 | Workshop 10 June 2014 – AIAS, Aarhus University



CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS: Uffe Juul Jensen, James Laidlaw, Jonathan Lear, Dorothée Legrand, Maria Louw, Cheryl Mattingly, Francois Raffoul, Joel Robbins, Jason Throop, Jarrett Zigon, Thomas Schwarz Wentzer

CALL FOR PAPERS

In connection with the conference Moral Engines on 4-6 June 2014, a smaller workshop will take place on 10 June 2014. We hereby invite PhD students, post docs and other interested scholars with their main affiliation in one of the Scandinavian countries to answer this call. For the most fruitful outcome of this workshop, participation in the main conference and a paper that engages seriously with the questions raised in the conference abstract is expected.

CONFERENCE ABSTRACT

In the course of the last decade or so, there has been a virtual explosion of anthropological literature which deals with morality and argues that morality should be considered a central dimension of human practice. The question of

what fundamentally drives human beings to ethical reflection, to strive for moral perfection or the cultivation of particular virtues, however, most often remains unexplored in this literature. This question will be taken up for explicit discussion, creating a space for dialogue between representatives from anthropology, philosophy and the history of ideas: Is it care for the self (as e.g. in the Foucauldian sense)? Is it a care for others (as the classical works by e.g. Løgstrup and Levinas would have it)? May it be fear (e.g. fear of God or fear of social sanctions)? Or something else?

In short, the main issue of the conference is to explore what may be termed the various moral engines in human life: At which levels are they to be localised - intersubjective, societal, individual? Do they differ from society to society, culture to culture, social setting to social setting, or are they universal?

SPECIFICATIONS AND DEADLINE

Each presenter will be granted a 40 min timeslot. Papers should not exceed 25 min, thus leaving 15 min for discussion. The paper is expected to respond to the questions raised in conference abstract and, since this is an inter-disciplinary workshop, it should be written with an inter-disciplinary audience in mind. PhD students are given 3 ECTS points for participating in the workshop.

Please send an abstract of 300 words to filrd@hum.au.dk by 9 March 2014.

Please include the following in the main document of your abstract:

a) Full name, b) Affiliation, c) Title of abstract, d) Body of abstract and e) 5 keywords.

On the conference homepage, you will find more information on registration, venue etc.:

<http://aias.au.dk/events/show/artikel/aias-conference-1/>

Contact: Rasmus Dyring filrd@hum.au.dk