THE 'IMPARTIAL SPECTATOR' BY ADAM SMITH AND THE NEUTRAL CRITERIA OF OPINION IN SOCIAL ETHICS

Summary

Ethical theory for Adam Smith is first of all the basic mechanism of social controls. Going out from decisions of the matter of the moral feelings, which the 'sympathy' states the foundation; it tries to work out the neutral criteria of ethical opinions intro-ducing the 'impartial spectator' figure. Superiority of this category in relation to John Rawls 'veil of ignorance' depends on this, that the Smith places his philosophical theory in the strong empirical context (the kind of sociological philosophy). Social ethicist is the base to build more folded regulators of community life, or social, such as economy and politics. The neutral criteria of ethical opinions are the foundation of different derivative social workings (economy, politics).