Jacob Dahl Rendtorff

Moral Blindness in Business

A Social Theory of Evil in Organizations and Institutions



CONTENTS

1	References		10	
Part		Foundations and History of Theory of Moral Blindness		
2	For the Love for the World. The Banality of Evil			
	in 1	he Light of Arendt's Political and Social Theory	17	
	2.1	Introduction	17	
	2.2	Rebellion Against Totalitarianism as the Radical		
		Evil	19	
	2.3	The Human Condition: The Love of the World	27	
	2.4	The Eichmann Controversy	32	
	2.5	Arendt's Philosophy After Eichmann in Jerusalem	40	
	2.6	The Arendt Reception After Her Death in 1975	46	
	2.7			
		to Philosophy of Management	50	
	Rej	Cerences Control of the Control of t	51	
3	Judgment's Historical Responsibility: Hannah Arendt			
	and Our Conception of the Holocaust		5 <i>7</i>	
	3.1	Introduction	57	

	3.2	The Holocaust as a Historical Event	60
	3.3	The Banality of Evil and the Phases in the Conception of the Holocaust	65
	3.4	Overcoming the Banality of Evil: The Impossible	05
	5.1	Forgiveness	72
	3.5	Conclusion: Insights for Business Ethics	12
	0.0	and Philosophy of Management	76
	Refer	vences	77
4	Ado	If Eichmann as the Prototype of the Evil Manager	
		Administrator	83
	4.1	Introduction	83
	4.2	The Story and the Trail of Eichmann	85
	4.3	Arendt and Eichmann's Evil	89
	4.4	Determining Dimensions of Moral Blindness	
		in Management and Organization	93
	4.5	Conclusion: Evil in Management in Modern	
		and Postmodern Organizations	95
	Refer	rences	97
Part		Systematic Elements of the Concept of Moral Blindness in Social Theory	
5	Inter	pretations of Evil in Modern Philosophy	
		Social Theory: What Significance for Ethics	
		Philosophy of Management?	103
	5.1	Introduction	103
	5.2	Revolt Against the Classical Theodicy	104
	5.3	Hannah Arendt: The Banality of Evil	105
	5.4	Jean-Paul Sartre: Critique of Absolute Evil	109
	5.5	André Glucksmann and Jean Baudrillard: Evil	
		as Nihilistic Play or Postmodern Revolt	113
	5.6	Conclusion: Challenges for Philosophy	
		of Management	118
	Refer	rences	120

6	Moral Blindness and Modernity: Interpretations and Developments of Arendt's Concept of Banality		
	of Ev		125
	6.1	Introduction	125
	6.2	Hannah Arendt's Definition of Moral Blindness	127
	6.3	Anti-Semitism as the Logic of Banality: Jean-Paul	
		Sartre and the Jewish Question	130
	6.4	The Medical Science of the Holocaust: Benno	
		Müller-Hill	133
	6.5	Technique and Bureaucracy in the Holocaust:	
		Zygmunt Bauman	137
	6.6	Authority and Obedience in Hierarchical Systems:	
		Stanley Milgram	141
	6.7	Lucifer Effect: How Good People Turn Evil	
		in Organizations: Philip Zimbardo	146
	6.8	The Banality of Evil as the Human Condition.	
		Günter Anders' Reply to Hannah Arendt	149
	6.9	Conclusion: Elements of Moral Blindness in Modern	
		Society	152
	Refe	rences	157
7	Moral Blindness in Administration, Business,		
	and	Surveillance Society	163
	7.1	Introduction	163
	7.2	The Concept of Moral Blindness in Management	165
	7.3		169
	7.4	Moral Blindness as Stupidity and Incompetence	
		Compensation Competence	172
	7.5	Moral Blindness, Moral Muteness, and Moral	
		Deafness	176
	7.6	Moral Blindness and Public Administration:	
		Unmasking of Administrative Evil	181
	7.7	Moral Blindness in Business Administration:	101
	, .,	Unbalanced Pursuit of Goals and Corporate	
		Psychopaths	183
	7.8	Moral Blindness and Surveillance Capitalism:	100
	, .0	From Punch Card Technology to Corporate Power	
		in the Digital Age	187
		ver vise any view alge	10/

	7.9	Conclusion: Perspectives for Research in Moral Blindness in Organization and Administration	191		
	Refi	erences	193		
Part	m	Toward a Management Philosophy of Judgment and Ethical Formulation Competency			
8	Tot	alitarianism, Practical Reason, and Judgment:			
	Philosophical Foundations for Business Ethics				
		Philosophy of Management	203		
	8.1	Introduction	203		
	8.2	Arendt's Political Phenomenology	204		
	8.3	Political Anthropology: Humanity Between			
		Thinking and Action	209		
	8.4	Vita Activa, Power, and Politics	213		
	8.5		217		
	8.6	Vita Activa in Modern Society	220		
	8.7	Judgment and Totalitarianism	224		
	8.8	Conclusion: Toward Ethical Judgment			
		in Management	227		
	Refe	rences	227		
9		spectives for Responsibility, Moral Thinking,			
		Imagination in Management and Public			
		ninistration	233		
	9.1	Introduction	233		
	9.2	Responsibility of Managers and Leaders			
		in Organizations	234		
	9.3	Moral Thinking and Ethical Reflection			
		in Organizations	240		
	9.4	Moral Thinking as Imagination and Moral			
		Decision-Making in Organizations	248		
	9.5	Conclusion: Moral Imagination as Ethical			
	D 4	Formulation Competency	254		
	Kefe	rences	255		

10	Political Philosophy of Responsibility for Democratic			
	Societies. Judgment in Politics, Management, and Administration			
				10.1
	10.2	Arendt's Concept of Judgment: Toward Critical		
			Judgment in Politics and Organization	262
	10.3	Judgment in the Political System: Politics, Law,		
		and Democracy	266	
	10.4	Judgment, Administration, and Management		
		in Modern Democracy	274	
	10.5	Conclusion: Judgment in Politics, Management,		
		and Administration	283	
	References		284	
11	Conclusion: Toward Moral Thinking Unlimited		289	
	References		293	
Ind	lex		297	