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The relevance of non-psychological views of the person to bio-ethics

Much recent philosophical writing on personhood focuses almost exclusively on the person as the subject of experience, leading to psychological factors being determinative of personhood, with moral and value-related elements being tacitly taken as supervenient upon the psychological. That has influenced work on bioethics, and what is objectionable about it is the one-sided and unbalanced aspect of it. I propose to introduce the recent work of certain other philosophers as offering a number of alternative perspectives which could be used to correct the balance. The ultimate goal of the paper is to suggest insights from these works that could suggest new lines of thought and inquiry for bioethicists.