

Abstract

The subject of this work is a long-term debate about the collective responsibility which occurs between two opposite opinions on social phenomenon above all. The methodical individualists interpret the social phenomenons with reference to individuals, whereas the methodical holists assert that these cannot be reduced to phenomenons of individuals without any rest. Methodical individualists lean on the classic conception of the moral responsibility which is based on the intended agency in causal connection with the moral wrong. This conception is connected with human beings in its nature, but there is countless of thinkers who bring arguments in favour of the collective moral responsibility which is thought to bring about more good in the world. We will try to introduce this debate in its complexity and its most interesting and important arguments. Within the frame of debate about moral responsibility of collectives, we can meet with the notion of shared responsibility, distributive collective responsibility, non-distributive collective responsibility connected with the organized collectives, the responsibility for historic injusticies and with the conception of moral taint. All of notions will be the subject of this work. The biggest interest is put on the responsibility of politic communities. In this regard, we will tend to arguments that the reponsibility of the collective itself can be justified, but this responsibility cannot be distributed to the members of the collective. However, the impact of this non-distributive collective responsibility on the members can be seen in the weaker moral concept of moral taint which is often connected with the prospective duty of acting in the way that makes the collective morally better.