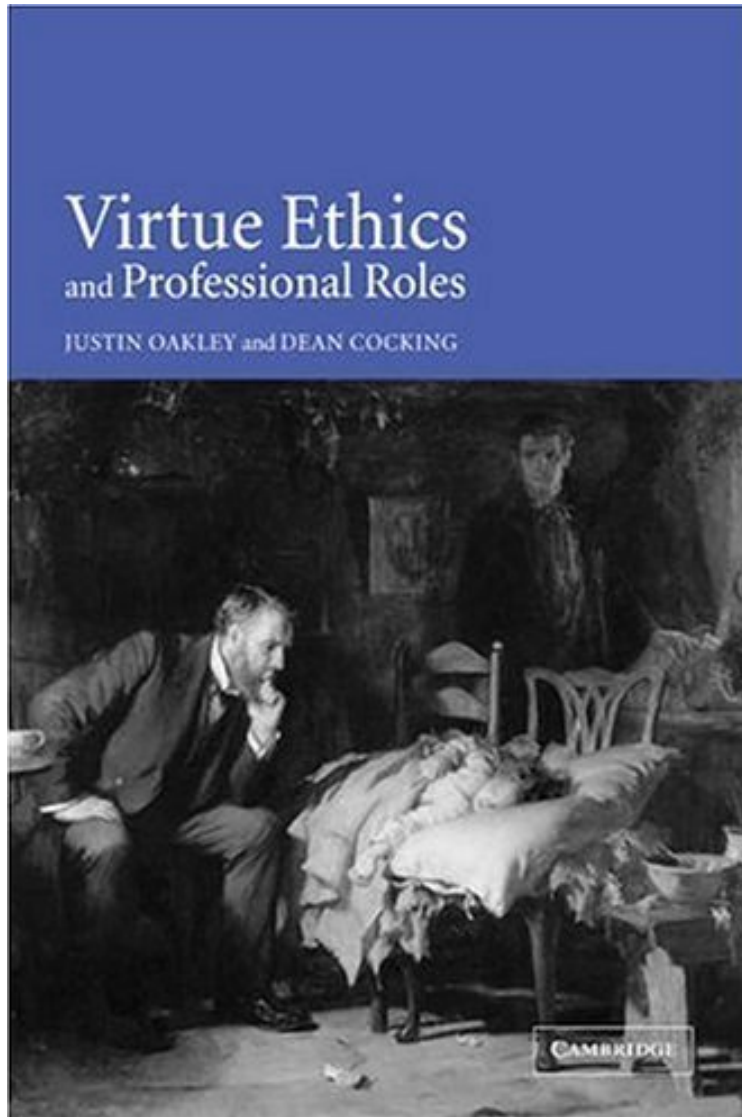


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## Virtue Ethics and Professional Roles

*Justin Oakley, Dean Cocking*  
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Taking medical and legal practice as key examples, the authors develop a rigorous articulation and defence of virtue ethics, contrasting it with other types of character-based ethical theories and showing that it offers a promising new approach to the ethics of professional roles. They provide insights into the central notions of professional detachment, professional integrity, and moral character in professional life, and demonstrate how a virtue-based approach can help us better understand what ethical professional-client relationships would be like.

'The great achievement of this book is that it renders virtue ethics plausible ... It certainly offers a new and constructive way of viewing the meaning and the purpose, the roles and the goods of professional life.' *Heythrop Journal* ... there have been relatively few theoretical contributions of this caliber to the literature on virtues and the professions, this book will be a welcome addition to the field.' Jennifer Welchman, *Philosophy* in 'This excellent volume has something for everyone ... It is a thought-provoking read [and] ...offers a significant contribution to the ethics literature' Derek Sellman, *Nursing Philosophy* About the Author Dean Cocking is Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics, Charles Sturt University, Canberra, Australia. He has published a number of articles in journals including *Ethics* and *The Journal of Philosophy*. Justin Oakley is Director of the Monash University Centre for Human Bioethics. His publications include *Morality and the Emotions* (1992) and a number of journal articles.