

FREE WILL: LIBERTARIANISM, DETERMINISM, NEODETERMINISM

There are 2 classical views concerning free will: that it exists, and that it operates outside the causal network (libertarianism), and that it is an illusion that dissolves upon performing the correct causal analysis (classical determinism). Our own neodeterministic or enlarged view of determinism (Bunge 1959, vol. 3, ch.) ~~Vol. 4, ch. , 1980,~~ ch.) makes room for free will conceived as inner-directed (or self-determined) action directed against environmental pressure (Vol. 4, ch. , ~~1980,~~ ch. , 1987, ch.). On this view a freely chosen and performed action, far from escaping the determinism network, is only possible through it, for it is an action initiated by an agent who makes use of his knowledge and valuation of the means likely to achieve his goal.

Example † Lending a hand to an unknown fallen person:

Situation → Perception of situation (brain process)

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Sense of duty (brain process) → Motor act (neuromuscular process)

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