

Some Varieties of Deception

Wolfgang Kuenne
University of Hamburg
UNC - Chapel Hill
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Abstract: Members of the family of concepts to which the title of this talk vaguely alludes play important roles in the philosophies of language, mind, action, morality, law and art. Some of those notions cover various kinds of misleading somebody, such as deceiving, cheating and deceiving oneself; others cover various kinds of trying to mislead somebody, such as simulating, acting hypocritically and lying. I want to throw some light on these concepts and their interrelations and to show which philosopher of the past has contributed most to the business of conceptual clarification in this area.