

# Stellingen

behorende bij het proefschrift

## Imagining moral enhancement practices

door Jona Specker

1. Regarding moral enhancement, the fundamental question is how to weigh the interests and preferences of the individual and the interests of others in view of public safety and managing public risks. – this thesis
2. Although current forensic mental health practices do not explicitly seek the moral betterment of forensic patients, elements of stimulating moral development and moral growth are part of forensic psychiatric care implicitly. – this thesis
3. With regard to empathy enhancement, the public appears concerned not only about effectiveness, but also about whether a person will learn something on a deeper level and in the longer run. – this thesis
4. Fostering moral competence and deeper understanding of why certain behaviour is morally wrong is more important than mere conformity to (moral) rules. – this thesis
5. Defining conduct as moral if it conforms to a socially or culturally accepted norm is intuitively incorrect, since many moral exemplars act in opposition to, and in order to change, social norms. – this thesis
6. Contrary to both rationalist and intuitionist expectations, expertise blends deliberation and well-educated intuition together. This is true in the case of moral functioning as well.
7. Methodological individualism, the view that all higher level social processes can ultimately be exhaustively explained (and, hence, remedied) at the level of the individual, is problematic. (following Norbert Paulo en Jan Christoph Bubltz)
8. For some people no ethical standards seem to exist outside of the law. Yet, the question ‘But is it good?’ (freely adapting G.E. Moore’s phrase) should always remain an open one.
9. Good writing is clear thinking made visible. That’s why it’s so hard. And that’s why teaching writing to students requires great compassion, for they are struggling.
10. The place for an accurate definition of a subject is at the end of an inquiry rather than at the beginning. John Dewey
11. The world is full of magic things, patiently waiting for our senses to grow sharper. W.B. Yeats