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978-0-521-17648-4 - The Tanner Lectures on Human Values, VII - 1986

Amartya Sen, Michael Slote, Barrington Moore, Quentin Skinner and Clifford Geertz

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ON HUMAN VALUES

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Amartya Sen, Michael Slote, Barrington Moore, Jr.,
Quentin Skinner, Clifford Geertz

Sterling M. McMurrin, *Editor*

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THE TANNER LECTURES ON HUMAN VALUES

Appointment as a Tanner lecturer is a recognition of uncommon capabilities and outstanding scholarly or leadership achievement in the field of human values. The lecturers may be drawn from philosophy, religion, the humanities and sciences, the creative arts and learned professions, or from leadership in public or private affairs. The lectureships are international and intercultural and transcend ethnic, national, religious, or ideological distinctions.

The purpose of the Tanner Lectures is to advance and reflect upon the scholarly and scientific learning relating to human values and valuation. This purpose embraces the entire range of values pertinent to the human condition, interest, behavior, and aspiration.

The Tanner Lectures were formally founded on July 1, 1978, at Clare Hall, Cambridge University. They were established by the American scholar, industrialist, and philanthropist, Obert Clark Tanner. In creating the lectureships, Professor Tanner said, "I hope these lectures will contribute to the intellectual and moral life of mankind. I see them simply as a search for a better understanding of human behavior and human values. This understanding may be pursued for its own intrinsic worth, but it may also eventually have practical consequences for the quality of personal and social life."

Permanent Tanner lectureships, with lectures given annually, are established at six institutions: Clare Hall, Cambridge University; Harvard University; Brasenose College, Oxford University; Stanford University; the University of Michigan; and the University of Utah. Each year lectureships may be granted to not more than four additional colleges or universities for one year only. The institutions are selected by the Trustees in consultation with an Advisory Commission.

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The sponsoring institutions have full autonomy in the appointment of their lecturers. A major purpose of the lecture program is the publication and wide distribution of the Lectures in an annual volume.

The Tanner Lectures on Human Values is a nonprofit corporation administered at the University of Utah under the direction of a self-perpetuating, international Board of Trustees and with the advice and counsel of an Advisory Commission. The Trustees meet annually to enact policies that will ensure the quality of the lectureships.

The entire lecture program, including the costs of administration, is fully and generously funded in perpetuity by an endowment of the University of Utah by Professor Tanner and Mrs. Grace Adams Tanner.

Obert C. Tanner was born in Farmington, Utah, in 1904. He was educated at the University of Utah, Harvard University, and Stanford University. He has served on the faculty of Stanford University and is presently Emeritus Professor of Philosophy at the University of Utah. He is the founder and chairman of the O. C. Tanner Company, manufacturing jewelers.

STERLING M. McMURRIN

University of Utah

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PREFACE TO VOLUME VII

Since the establishment of the Tanner Lectures on Human Values at Clare Hall, Cambridge University, in 1978, annual lectures have been delivered at the six institutions which were named permanent sponsors of the lectureships: Clare Hall, Cambridge University; Harvard University; Brasenose College, Oxford University; Stanford University; the University of Michigan; and the University of Utah. In addition, lectures have been delivered at Utah State University, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Australian National University, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and the University of Helsinki. Lectures have been approved for Queen's University (Belfast), the University of Warsaw, and the University of Buenos Aires.

The Tanner Lectures on Human Values are published in an annual volume. A general index to Volumes I through V is included in Volume V.

Volume VII of the Tanner Lectures is comprised of lectures delivered during the academic year 1984–85 together with the lecture by Professor Clifford Geertz which was read at the University of Michigan early in the academic year 1985–86.

Both Professor Tanner and the Trustees of the Tanner Lectures on Human Values have funded special lectureships at selected colleges and universities which are administered and published independently of the series of lectureships published in the annual volumes.

The press editor for the annual volumes is Trudy McMurrin. The volumes are composed in Intertype Garamond with Garamond Foundry display type by Donald M. Henriksen.