

EXISTENTIAL FLOURISHING

This innovative volume argues that flourishing is achieved when individuals successfully balance their responsiveness to three kinds of normative claim: self-fulfilment, moral responsibility, and intersubjective answerability. Applying underutilized resources in existential phenomenology, Irene McMullin reconceives practical reason, addresses traditional problems in virtue ethics, and analyzes four virtues: justice, patience, modesty, and courage. Her central argument is that there is an irreducible normative plurality arising from the different practical perspectives we can adopt – the first-, second-, and third-person stances – which each presents us with different kinds of normative claim. Flourishing is human excellence within each of these normative domains, achieved in such a way that success in one does not compromise success in another. The individual virtues are solutions to specific existential challenges we face in attempting to do so. This book will be important for anyone working in the fields of moral theory, existential phenomenology, and virtue ethics.

IRENE MCMULLIN is Senior Lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Essex. She is the author of *Time and the Shared World* (2013) and numerous articles in journals including *Philosophical Review*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *Kantian Review*, and *Philosophical Topics*.

EXISTENTIAL
FLOURISHING

A Phenomenology of the Virtues

IRENE MCMULLIN
University of Essex



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To Mary, Lucy, and Matthew with love

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