

FICHTE'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

In this study of Fichte's social and political philosophy, David James offers an interpretation of Fichte's most famous writings in this area, including his *Foundations of Natural Right* and *Addresses to the German Nation*, centred on two main themes: property and virtue. These themes provide the basis for a discussion of such issues as what it means to guarantee the freedom of all the citizens of a state, the problem of unequal relations of economic dependence between states, and the differences and connections between the legal and political sphere of right and that of morality. James also relates Fichte's central social and political ideas to those of other important figures in the history of philosophy, including Locke, Kant and Hegel, as well as to the radical phase of the French Revolution. His account will be of importance to all who are interested in Fichte's philosophy and its intellectual and political context.

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PROPERTY AND VIRTUE

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314-321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi - 110025, India

103 Penang Road, #05-06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

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Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107001558

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First published 2011

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-1-107-00155-8 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-107-68444-7 Paperback

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[More Information](#)

For my son, Benjamin

CONTENTS

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>page xi</i>
<i>List of abbreviations of Fichte's works</i>	<i>xii</i>
Introduction	1
1 Fichte's theory of property	21
Fichte on property	24
Property and freedom	44
2 Applying the concept of right: Fichte and Babeuf	56
Fichte and the French Revolution	57
Fichte and Babeuf	70
Fichte's traditionalism	82
3 Fichte's reappraisal of Kant's theory of cosmopolitan right	87
The Kantian cosmopolitanism of Fichte's <i>Foundations of Natural Right</i>	89
Fichte's critique of Kant's theory of cosmopolitan right	94
Kant on economic dependence	101
4 The relation of right to morality in Fichte's Jena theory of the state and society	112
The separation of right from morality	116
The state of necessity	123

x	CONTENTS	
	Fichte's doctrine of ethical duties	131
	The role of virtue in Fichte's theory of right	143
5	The role of virtue in the <i>Addresses to the German Nation</i>	162
	Fichte on the vocation of the scholar	165
	Fichte's (mis)use of history	168
	Producing virtue	187
	Conscience	196
	<i>Bibliography</i>	208
	<i>Index</i>	212

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The research for this book was to a large extent made possible by funding from the South African National Research Foundation. I would like to thank Lawrence Hamilton for his comments on material that later came to form part of the book, and Daniel Breazeale and Frederick Neuhouser for their helpful suggestions as to how I might improve the book itself.

The book includes some revised material that has previously appeared elsewhere as ‘The Relation of Right to Morality in Fichte’s Jena Theory of the State and Society’, *History of European Ideas* 35(3) (2009), ‘Applying the Concept of Right: Fichte and Babeuf’, *History of Political Thought* 30(4) (2009), ‘Fichte’s Reappraisal of Kant’s Theory of Cosmopolitan Right’, *History of European Ideas* 36(1) (2010), ‘Fichte’s Theory of Property’, *European Journal of Political Theory* 9(2) (2010) and ‘Fichte on the Vocation of the Scholar and the (Mis)use of History’, *Review of Metaphysics* 63(3) (2010).

ABBREVIATIONS OF FICHTE'S WORKS

- AGN *Addresses to the German Nation*, trans. Gregory Moore (Cambridge University Press, 2008)
- CPR 'The Characteristics of the Present Age', in *The Popular Works of Johann Gottlieb Fichte*, trans. William Smith, 2 vols. (London: Trübner & Co., 1889), vol. II
- EPW *Fichte: Early Philosophical Writings*, trans. Daniel Breazeale (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1988)
- FNR *Foundations of Natural Right*, ed. Frederick Neuhouser, trans. Michael Baur (Cambridge University Press, 2000)
- GA *J. G. Fichte – Gesamtausgabe der Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften*, ed. Reinhard Lauth, Erich Fuchs and Hans Gliwitzky (Stuttgart and Bad Canstatt: Frommann-Holzboog, 1964–)
- RPP 'J. G. Fichte, Review of Immanuel Kant, *Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch* (Königsberg: Nicolovius, 1795)', trans. Daniel Breazeale, *Philosophical Forum* 32 (4) (2001), 311–21
- SE *The System of Ethics*, ed. and trans. Daniel Breazeale and Günter Zöller (Cambridge University Press, 2005)