



Universität Innsbruck – Institut für Christliche Philosophie

Vorträge auswärtiger Gelehrter SS 2009

**Reihe: Naturalismus in der
Erkenntnistheorie/Naturalism in Epistemology**

Organisation: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Christoph Jäger

Katherine Munn (Oxford)
**Religious Belief and Deep
Disagreement**

Mi., 22.04.2009, 18:00 Uhr s.t., SR VI (Karl-Rahner-Platz 3)

What is the rational way to respond when two equally intelligent and fair-minded people who have the same evidence for a hypothesis H – 'epistemic peers' – arrive at different credences in H ? Does their disagreement provide additional evidence for or against H ? Several competing accounts have recently been developed on the rational response to peer disagreement. I will argue that there is a certain kind of belief which these accounts cannot handle adequately. These beliefs, 'deep beliefs,' of which religious beliefs are typical instances, play foundational roles in epistemically grounding many of our other beliefs. I will argue that the parties to a disagreement about a deep belief H (a 'deep disagreement') are not epistemic peers, because they typically arrive at their credences in H by conditionalizing on different evidence. The reason is that our evidence for deep beliefs is often difficult to share with others. I will suggest an alternative to agnosticism in deep disagreements.

Katherine Munn, M.A., B.A., studierte an der Rutgers University (Bachelors Degree 2003) und war von 2002 bis 2005 wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiterin am Institute for Formal Ontology and Medical Information Sciences in Leipzig und Saarbrücken. BPhil (Philosophie) 2005 in Leipzig, BPhil (Philosophy) 2007 in Oxford. Sie ist derzeit als Mitglied des Mansfield College Tutorin und Dphil-Kandidatin an der Faculty of Philosophy der Oxford University. Wichtigste Publikation: *Applied Ontology: An Introduction* (Hrsg., mit Barry Smith), 2007.

Alle InteressentInnen sind herzlich eingeladen!