

An Enduring Philosophical Agenda. Worldview Construction as a Philosophical Method.

Clément, Vidal (2007) An Enduring Philosophical Agenda. Worldview Construction as a Philosophical Method. .

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Abstract

Is there such a thing as a philosophical method? It seems that there are as many philosophical methods as there are philosophies. A method is any procedure employed to achieve a certain aim. So, before proposing a method, we have to tackle the delicate question: " what is the aim of philosophy?" . At the origin of philosophy, there is a questioning about the world. The worldview approach developed by Leo Apostel (Apostel, Van der Veken 1991) elegantly explicit those fundamental questions. As we answer them, we come up with a worldview. Using this framework, this paper consider answering this enduring philosophical agenda as the primary aim of philosophy. However, we argue that philosophical worldviews constitute a particular class of possible worldviews. With the help of three analogies, we give guidelines to construct such worldviews. The next step is to compare the relative strength of philosophical worldviews. Precise evaluation standards to compare and confront worldviews are proposed. Some problems for worldview diffusion are then expounded. We close with basic hypotheses to build an integrative philosophical worldview.

Keywords: metaphilosophy, worldview, weltanschauung, philosophical method, philosophical agenda, task of philosophy, systematic philosophy, speculative philosophy.

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ID Code: 3335

Deposited By: [Clément, Vidal](#)

Deposited On: 12 May 2007

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