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FEMINIST EPISTEMOLOGIES AND NATURALIZATION

*Abstract*

Naturalized epistemologies and feminist epistemologies are both hot topics, and it might be instructive to compare them. Such is a task of the present paper. The details of three different feminist strategies to naturalize epistemology are analyzed. The first is Quinean. The second takes ecology into account. The third postulates the socialization of epistemology. I conclude that the first two have not any right to call themselves “epistemology” – even if naturalized – since they by-pass the main problems of traditional epistemology and do not retain its normative character. Concerning the third, I contrast its claims with the more plausible ones of individualism.