THE NEW GOLDEN RULE
Community and Morality in a Democratic Society

AMITAI ETZIONI

BASIC BOOKS

A Member of the Perseus Books Group 1996

Contents

Acknowledgments xi
Preface: Virtue in a Free Society xiii
1 The Elements of a Good Society 3
2 Order and Autonomy? 34
3 The Fall and Rise of America 58
4 Sharing Core Values 85
5 The Moral Voice 119
6 The Implications of Human Nature 160
7 Pluralism Within Unity 189
8 The Final Arbiters of Community's Values 217
Notes 259
Index

Acknowledgments

In launching the work on this book, I benefited from profound suggestions from William A. Galston, Alan Wolfe, and Daniel A. Bell. Numerous detailed criticisms of drafts were made by Ronald Beiner and David M. Anderson. Mark Gould was particularly critical and helpful. I am most grateful for various suggestions by Paul Golob, my BasicBooks editor.

I am especially grateful to a team of research assistants who did much more than the usual research chores, tasks they discharged exceedingly well. They served as my sounding board and first critics, unfailingly posed challenges, questioned assumptions, and made numerous editorial suggestions. The team included Michael Bocian, Ryan J. Hagemann, Frank Lovett, Jeremy Mallory, Matthew L. Schwartz, Nora B. Pollock--and David E. Carney, who coordinated the work as well. He worked with me with great dedication from the day the book was first envisioned until it was sent to press. I am
particularly indebted to him. Daniel Doherty, the managing editor of the *Responsive Community*, served as another major source of suggestions and criticisms. I am grateful to Laura Brodbeck for comments on several of the chapters and to David Karp, Andy Altman, Seth Jaffo, and Tamara Watts for their discussions. Pat Kellogg not only put up with me as I was writing the book, but also made it significantly better.

---

**Preface:**

**Virtue in a Free Society**

In 1992, Antioch College issued a lengthy, detailed, written list of instructions that students, faculty, and staff are expected to follow when they proposition one another. Members of the Antioch community are required to ask permission explicitly from their prospective partners at every step and move of courtship, and are warned not to proceed until and unless explicit and unambiguous consent to advance has been granted. Antioch explains the policy to incoming students (who are required to participate in sexual consent workshops) as follows: "Each step of the way, you have to ask. . . . If you want to take her blouse off, you have to ask. If you want to touch her breast, you have to ask. If you want to move your hand down to her genitals, you have to ask. If you want to put your finger. . . ." All students are warned that if they violate the code, they will be subject to significant penalties, including expulsion from the college.

---

**Notes**

**PREFACE**

