

Emotion and Yangming 's Mind Theoty

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Abstract: Yangming's transformation of Neo-Confucianism not only has the meaning of structural transformation, but also has the function of order and modality adjustment. Different from the “preserve the principle and discard the human desire” thought of Neo-Confucianism, Yangming’s Mind Theory is set up from the mind to extend the intuitive knowledge. The original mind is the starting-point for various potentials. The mind is initiated by preconception(yi) , which correlates with emotion. And emotion is the outcome of the mutual effect between mind and external environment. The initiation of moral practice is based on the feeling of commiseration, the beginning of benevolence. As time changes, the exploration of spiritual practice in contemporary China turns to sensation or desire, but it can not get rid of the confinement of role thinking. Therefore, we should learn from the spiritual practice of Christianity to reconstruct the mind.

Key words: emotion; psychology; Neo-Confucianism; morality; spiritual practice