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HUMANITIES

Philosophy

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The following review appeared in the August 2013 issue of CHOICE:

50-6696 BJ1251 MARC Moe-Lobeda, Cynthia D. Resisting structural evil: love as ecological--economic vocation. Fortress, 2013. 309p index afp ISBN 9781451462678 pbk, \$22.00

Moe-Lobeda (Seattle Univ.) engages a complicated but extremely important moral issue: structural or systemic evil. Embracing an "earth-honoring" ethic, and moving beyond the limits of individual or personal ethics, Moe-Lobeda embeds her reflections in the context of both economic structures and ecological realities. She wants her readers to understand the moral implications of the choices that these realities present. She tries to integrate scholarly analysis of moral theology with concrete examples of people and groups struggling with the often hidden costs of institutional and corporate power within the free market that enables such power to be exercised. She has a clear point of view but does not overlook many of the paradoxes and ambiguities that arise from the ethic of love as ecological-economic vocation that she is advancing. Adopting the ethic she presents will be challenging--given its depth, breadth, and interlocking complexities--but it deserves attention. From time to time, the book does seem a bit overwritten and repetitive, but the subject is important enough that rereading some of the same arguments in different chapters is not without its benefits. Summing Up: Recommended. Lower-level undergraduates and above; general readers. -- F. G. Kirkpatrick, Trinity College (CT)

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