

Martha Bolton

Shepherd on the objects of sense perception and belief in their continued existence

Mary Shepherd argues against Hume that 'Everything that begins to exist has a cause' and 'Similar causes have similar effect' are necessary truths which all human beings implicitly understand at a very early age. She bases an account of the origin and justification of all the basic sorts of existential human beliefs on reasoning from these principles. Here again, she deliberately opposes Hume in regard to the causal origin and justification of these beliefs. In this paper, I talk about her distinctive representative theory of sense perception and its objects. I contend that it is more defensible than typical causal theories of perception are.