

Van Inwagen and Philosophy: Van Inwagen's metaphilosophy

*Seyed Mohammadhassan Ayatollahzadeh Shirazi**

*Mohammadreza Movahedipour***

DOI: 10.22096/EK.2022.532604.1376

[Received Date: 30/11/2019 Acceptance Date: 06/05/2020]

Absrtact

Peter van Inwagen, despite of his influence in the contemporary philosophy, not in spare places, does argue and analysis contra to the accepted ways and jargon of the contemporary analytical philosophy. This has led him to adopt some unusual positions. For these perplexities we believe th at his methodology and metaphilosophy need to be reconsidered. In this paper, we try to make clear his view about philosophy and its appropriate method. To do this, we will directly go through his philosophical works and try to spell out the components of his metaphilosophical puzzle: how to argue, how to define, how to analysis philosophical jargons, how to do metaphysics, what is the philosophical intuition, and metaontology. Putting all of these together will provide a complete picture of his metaphilosophy. Therefore, each section of this paper investigates one of these metaphilosophical questions. Without taking this picture to the consideration, we believe that will be impossible to understand his philosophy and its arguments properly.

Keywords: Peter Van Inwagen; Metaphilosophy; Philosophical Argument; Definition; Metaphysics; Philosophical Intuition.

* Assistant Professor, Faculty of Philosophy, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran.

Email: h_shirazi@sbu.ac.ir

** Master student of philosophy in Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran.

Email: Mohammad.movahedi65@gmail.com



Bibliography

- Armstrong, David. *A Plan for a Systematic Metaphysics*. Trans. by Seyed Mohammad Hassan Ayat Allahzadeh Shirazi and Seyed Ali Seyedi Fard. Tehran: Kargadan Publication, 2012. [In Persian]
- Jansen, Ludger & Paul M. Näger (Eds). *Peter van Inwagen: Materialism, Free Will and God*. Berlin: Springer, 2018.
- Keller, John A. (Ed) *Being, Freedom, and Method: Themes from the Philosophy of Peter van Inwagen*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017.
- Van Inwagen, P. "Causation and the Mental." in *Reason, Metaphysics, and Mind: New Essays on the Philosophy of Alvin Plantinga*. Edited by Kelly James Clark, Michael Rea. 1st Edition, Oxford: OUP, 2011.
- Van Inwagen, P. "How to Think about the Problem of Free Will." *Journal of Ethics* 12, no. 3/4, (2008A): 327-341.
- Van Inwagen, P. "Modal Epistemology." *Philosophical Studies* 92, no. 1 (1998B): 67-84.
- Van Inwagen, P. "The Nature of Metaphysics." in *Contemporary Readings in the Foundations of Metaphysics*. Edited by Cynthia Macdonald and Stephen Laurence. 1st edition. NJ: Wiley-Blackwell, 1998A.
- Van Inwagen, P. *An Essay on Free Will*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1983.
- Van Inwagen, P. *Metaphysics*. Third Edition, Colorado: Westview Press, 2008C.
- Van Inwagen, P. *The Problem of Evil*. 1st Edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008B