



PROFESSORIAL TALKS AT CHERWELL COLLEGE

Is human wickedness a result of nature or nurture?

Dr Magnus Moar

On 24th February 2017, Cherwell College was lucky enough to host a fascinating talk by Dr Magnus Moar.

Magnus, a tutor in Sociology, Religion and Philosophy at Cherwell College, spoke on the theological and philosophical implications of human wickedness, and recounted historical explanations and reactions to such wickedness by eminent philosophers and theologians.

Magnus' talk was incredibly broad in scope; he spoke about a range of philosophers, from Plato to Aristotle to Hobbes, Freud and Heidegger, and on a range of topics, from Greek tragedy to Darwinism and British culture in the early 20th Century. There really was something for everyone!

Magnus' talk was followed by a lively debate among our students, and a fruitful Question and

Answer session. Our student audience asked intelligent and perceptive questions about the problem of cultural relativism in talking about wickedness, the folkloric nature of the creation story and the temporality of human beings. Thanks to Lily, Pengzhou, Fatima, Chris and Basim for asking such fascinating and relevant questions.

This Q&A session was then followed up by an informal discussion among staff and students, about the modern implications of human wickedness on politics and current affairs.

Cherwell College would like to extend its thanks to Dr Magnus Moar, for taking the time to come in and speak to us on what was clearly an engaging and fascinating topic.

We hope our students enjoyed this talk, and found it useful for their studies.

