



Testimony, Trust, and Authority

By Benjamin McMyler

Download now

Read Online ➔

Testimony, Trust, and Authority By Benjamin McMyler

Much of what we know is acquired by taking things on the word of other people whom we trust and treat as authorities concerning what to believe. But what exactly is it to take someone's word for something? What is it to treat another as an authority concerning what to believe, and what is it to then trust this person for the truth? In *Testimony, Trust, and Authority*, Benjamin McMyler argues that philosophers have failed to appreciate the nature and significance of our epistemic dependence on the word of others. What others tell us is the case-their testimony, as philosophers use the term-provides us with a reason for belief that is fundamentally unlike the kind of reason for belief provided by other kinds of impersonal evidence. Unlike a footprint in the snow or a bloody knife left at the scene of a crime, a speaker's testimony provides an audience with what McMyler calls a second-personal reason for belief, a reason for belief that serves to parcel out epistemic responsibility for the belief interpersonally between speaker and audience.

Testimony, Trust, and Authority is the most developed articulation and defense of an interpersonal theory of the epistemology of testimony yet to appear. It explains how this position relates to the historical development of philosophical questions about testimony, draws out what is at stake between this position and other competing positions in the contemporary epistemological literature on testimony, highlights and clarifies what is so controversial about this position, and shows how this position connects to broader philosophical issues concerning trust, the second person, and the role of authority in both theoretical and practical rationality. It will be of interest not only to specialists in epistemology but to anyone interested in the nature and significance of human sociality.

↓ [Download Testimony, Trust, and Authority ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online Testimony, Trust, and Authority ...pdf](#)

Testimony, Trust, and Authority

By Benjamin McMyler

Testimony, Trust, and Authority By Benjamin McMyler

Much of what we know is acquired by taking things on the word of other people whom we trust and treat as authorities concerning what to believe. But what exactly is it to take someone's word for something? What is it to treat another as an authority concerning what to believe, and what is it to then trust this person for the truth? In *Testimony, Trust, and Authority*, Benjamin McMyler argues that philosophers have failed to appreciate the nature and significance of our epistemic dependence on the word of others. What others tell us is the case-their testimony, as philosophers use the term-provides us with a reason for belief that is fundamentally unlike the kind of reason for belief provided by other kinds of impersonal evidence. Unlike a footprint in the snow or a bloody knife left at the scene of a crime, a speaker's testimony provides an audience with what McMyler calls a second-personal reason for belief, a reason for belief that serves to parcel out epistemic responsibility for the belief interpersonally between speaker and audience.

Testimony, Trust, and Authority is the most developed articulation and defense of an interpersonal theory of the epistemology of testimony yet to appear. It explains how this position relates to the historical development of philosophical questions about testimony, draws out what is at stake between this position and other competing positions in the contemporary epistemological literature on testimony, highlights and clarifies what is so controversial about this position, and shows how this position connects to broader philosophical issues concerning trust, the second person, and the role of authority in both theoretical and practical rationality. It will be of interest not only to specialists in epistemology but to anyone interested in the nature and significance of human sociality.

Testimony, Trust, and Authority By Benjamin McMyler Bibliography

- Rank: #1646215 in Books
- Published on: 2011-09-12
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 6.40" h x .60" w x 9.40" l, .92 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 192 pages

 [Download Testimony, Trust, and Authority ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Testimony, Trust, and Authority ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

Review

Testimony, Trust, and Authority is a valuable contribution to the epistemology of testimony. In particular, those who believe Morans Assurance view to be correct in important respects will find much helpful material here. * Thomas W. Simpson, Mind * McMyler's account of testimony is, I believe, one of the best elucidations, to date, of our ordinary practice of giving and receiving testimonial knowledge and belief [...]I reccomend McMyler's book to anyone interested in the epistemology of testimony. The author has a through command both of the subject itself and how it relates to broader philosophical issues. * Jonas Ahlskog, Philosophical Investigations, * Testimony, Trust, and Authority offers ... a sophisticated interpersonal theory of testimony. It is informed by the latest discussions in the field and situated against a background of the historical debatethe discussion of which is, in my view, a real highlight of the book and one of the best in the literature. * Stephen Wright, Erkenn *

About the Author

Benjamin McMyler is Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Texas A&M University

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Thomas Welty:

This Testimony, Trust, and Authority are reliable for you who want to be described as a successful person, why. The reason of this Testimony, Trust, and Authority can be on the list of great books you must have is actually giving you more than just simple studying food but feed you actually with information that maybe will shock your before knowledge. This book is usually handy, you can bring it almost everywhere and whenever your conditions in e-book and printed types. Beside that this Testimony, Trust, and Authority forcing you to have an enormous of experience such as rich vocabulary, giving you trial run of critical thinking that could it useful in your day action. So , let's have it and luxuriate in reading.

Hattie Leclair:

The book untitled Testimony, Trust, and Authority is the guide that recommended to you to learn. You can see the quality of the e-book content that will be shown to an individual. The language that article author use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The writer was did a lot of research when write the book, hence the information that they share for you is absolutely accurate. You also could possibly get the e-book of Testimony, Trust, and Authority from the publisher to make you far more enjoy free time.

Mike Edwards:

People live in this new day of lifestyle always try to and must have the free time or they will get large amount of stress from both lifestyle and work. So , if we ask do people have spare time, we will say

absolutely indeed. People is human not really a robot. Then we question again, what kind of activity have you got when the spare time coming to a person of course your answer can unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading textbooks. It can be your alternative inside spending your spare time, often the book you have read is actually Testimony, Trust, and Authority.

Kisha Hutton:

Do you have something that you prefer such as book? The guide lovers usually prefer to opt for book like comic, quick story and the biggest the first is novel. Now, why not seeking Testimony, Trust, and Authority that give your satisfaction preference will be satisfied through reading this book. Reading behavior all over the world can be said as the means for people to know world far better then how they react in the direction of the world. It can't be said constantly that reading practice only for the geeky individual but for all of you who wants to become success person. So , for all of you who want to start reading through as your good habit, you could pick Testimony, Trust, and Authority become your personal starter.

Download and Read Online Testimony, Trust, and Authority By Benjamin McMyler #OKW9R3L8T7J

Read Testimony, Trust, and Authority By Benjamin McMyler for online ebook

Testimony, Trust, and Authority By Benjamin McMyler Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Testimony, Trust, and Authority By Benjamin McMyler books to read online.

Online Testimony, Trust, and Authority By Benjamin McMyler ebook PDF download

Testimony, Trust, and Authority By Benjamin McMyler Doc

Testimony, Trust, and Authority By Benjamin McMyler Mobipocket

Testimony, Trust, and Authority By Benjamin McMyler EPub

OKW9R3L8T7J: Testimony, Trust, and Authority By Benjamin McMyler