

## Preface

The three central essays in this collection present a general framework of analysis for moral and political philosophy and examples of the usefulness of this framework. The logical progression thus begins with the second of these essays *An Ecological Organic Paradigm: A Framework of Analysis for Moral and Political Philosophy*. This essay describes a four-part framework of analysis based on a multidimensional understanding of human nature and ecology, with ecology being understood as the interaction between an organism and its environment. The usefulness of this framework is illustrated by applying it first to political philosophy in *The Moral Foundations of United States Constitutional Democracy: a Historical and Analytic Inquiry into the Primary Moral Value of Equality*. The framework is also then used in the third central essay to analyze an applied moral philosophy in *What Medical Ethics Have to Offer the Larger Fields of Moral and Political Philosophy*. The essays, however, are presented in the order in which they were originally written and they can be read that way.

The essays are closely interrelated, but they were originally presented to quite different audiences. There is thus some significant overlap, repetition and even duplication of some of the central themes. These are being applied in different contexts, however, and this is helpful for the purpose of illustration.

I also think it is useful for authors of this type of work to give some indication of their personal background and the influences in their lives. The last essay is a tribute to my father and it may in part serve this purpose. The occasion for writing this tribute was a distinguished alumni award that he received from his high school in Westlake, Ohio. I feel fortunate to have written this essay before he died at the age of 92. The book is dedicated to my mother, Gladys Rutherford, who was my first and best teacher. The first essay is on George Orwell simply because I wish it to be so.

The introduction is an overview and the place to begin.