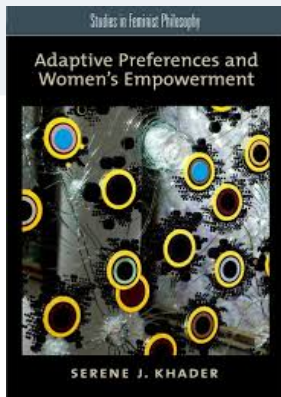
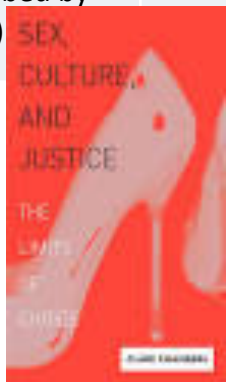


# Are Adaptive Preferences Autonomy Deficits?

Types of Adaptive Preferences	Accounts of autonomy	Observations	Conclusions
<p>1) Preferences developed in unfavourable conditions, and that are incompatible with the individual's well-being (a type of adaptive preference described by Nussbaum and Khader)</p>	<p>Procedural account of autonomy: judge preferences, desires, and actions as autonomous or not based on whether or not the mental process by which they have been arrived at was autonomous.</p>	<p>According to most procedural accounts of autonomy, it becomes too easy to apply critiques of non-autonomy to individuals that are not members of oppressed groups, and whose preferences do not seem problematic.</p>	<p>Though adaptive preferences may be non-autonomous, they are rendered non-autonomous by the structures that limit their choices rather than the nature of how they adapt to these preferences.</p>
<p>2) Preferences that are not incompatible with the individual's well-being, but that we believe to have been formed by a "field" imbued with oppressive norms (as described by Clare Chambers)</p>	<p>Substantive accounts of autonomy: Require that an agent have <i>morally adequate</i> options at her disposal in order for a given choice to be autonomous.</p>	<p>There are some sorts of preferences that seem incompatible with autonomy regardless of the process by which they came to be; that is, adaptive preferences of the first kind, whereby individuals seem to choose things that are incompatible with their well-being, often for lack of better options, or lack of awareness that other options exist.</p> <p>Substantive accounts of autonomy, conversely, fail to take into account adaptive preferences of the second kind.</p>	<p>Critiques of specific adaptive preferences due to their lack of autonomy is inefficient at best and harmful at worst; it is oppressive structures that warrant attention more so than the preferences they produce.</p>



Martha Nussbaum



Serene Khader

