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Howard K. Wettstein is Professor of Philosophy at the University of California, Riverside. He holds an M.A. and Ph.D. from the City University of New York and a B.A. from Yeshiva College. He has authored three books, *The Significance of Religious Experience, and Other Essays*, *The Magic Prism: An Essay in the Philosophy of Language*, and *Has Semantics Rested on a Mistake? And Other Essays*, and edited others including *Themes from Kaplan* (co-edited) and *Diasporas and Exiles: Varieties of Jewish Identity*. He is currently writing a new book on the philosophy of religion; his work in that area includes such topics as doctrine and the viability of philosophical theology; the Book of Job and the problem of evil; the Akedah (the Binding of Isaac); the character of religious experience and religious life; and the roles of awe, ritual, and intimacy. He has published articles on these topics and well as in the philosophy of language.

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The Concept of Evil explores complicated questions regarding moral evil. The term “evil” is used widely in ordinary language and yet philosophers have disagreed on what, if anything, distinguishes an evil act from a wrong act or an evil person from a bad one. Is “evil” a distinct and important moral category? Which agents and acts can and should be classified as “evil”? In which areas of practice does evil arise? These questions indicate three essential categories that belong to a thorough analysis of the concept of evil: meta-evil, the nature of evil, and applied evil. The articles presented in this volume provide insight into these categories. The essays by David McNaughton and Eve Garrard and by Allan Hazlett investigate whether “evil” is a unique moral category. The essays by Claudia Card on surviving mass atrocities, Laurence Thomas on evil and self-deception, Luke Russell on evil and incomprehensibility, and Geoffrey Scarre on collectivities and evil each present an argument concerning the nature of evil acts and/or agents. The remaining essays focus on evil in particular areas of human practice and interaction: Leo Zaibert on evil and punishment, Bat-Ami Bar On on evil and politics, Knut Berner on evil and architecture, Samantha Vice on evil, beauty, mourning, and commemoration, and Michael J. Almeida on the religious problem of evil.