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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-57988

Title: Artificial Intelligence as a Moral Phenomenon: Rethinking the Ethical Neutrality of Algorithmic Systems through Rousseau

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision.....yes.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality			Y	
Techn. Quality			Y	
Clarity			Y	
Significance			y	

Reviewer's ID: JPR-Dr.Shaweta sachdeva

Detailed Reviewer's Report

1. The manuscript presents an interesting philosophical perspective on AI by integrating Rousseau's concept of moral formation with contemporary debates on algorithmic ethics, offering a novel interdisciplinary contribution.
2. The central argument is clearly articulated; however, the authors should explicitly state the research gap and explain how their approach differs from existing philosophical analyses of AI ethics.
3. The introduction would benefit from a more concise presentation of the study objectives and specific research questions to improve focus and readability.
4. The discussion relies heavily on conceptual arguments. Including additional contemporary case studies of AI deployment in healthcare, education, governance, or social media would strengthen the practical relevance of the claims.
5. The manuscript should provide a clearer justification for selecting Rousseau over other moral philosophers whose frameworks have been widely applied in AI ethics.
6. Some sections contain repetitive explanations regarding the non-neutrality of AI and the embedding of values in algorithmic systems. Reducing repetition would improve the overall flow of the manuscript.
7. The distinction between "moral agent" and "moral phenomenon" is important to the argument but could be elaborated further with illustrative examples to enhance conceptual clarity.
8. The historical overview of AI is informative; however, it could be streamlined to maintain stronger alignment with the main thesis of moral constitution and ethical significance.
9. The manuscript would benefit from engaging with recent developments in generative AI, large language models, and foundation models, which have intensified debates about embedded values and algorithmic influence.
10. More critical engagement with opposing viewpoints supporting technological neutrality would improve the balance and scholarly rigor of the discussion.
11. The authors may consider discussing potential limitations of the Rousseauian framework when applied to modern AI systems and digital infrastructures.

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12. Several claims regarding the influence of AI on human judgment and social organization would be strengthened by incorporating additional empirical studies and contemporary evidence.
13. The conclusion effectively summarizes the main arguments, but it could further highlight specific implications for AI governance, policy development, and ethical design practices.
14. The reference list is comprehensive; however, some cited unpublished manuscripts should be replaced, where possible, with peer-reviewed and widely accessible sources.
15. The manuscript is generally well written, but a thorough language and stylistic review would improve sentence conciseness and reduce overly lengthy paragraphs.
16. A dedicated section discussing future research directions in AI ethics and moral philosophy would enhance the contribution and provide a roadmap for subsequent scholarship.
17. The paper successfully bridges philosophy and technology studies, yet greater engagement with contemporary AI governance frameworks would increase its relevance to current policy discussions.
- 18.** The overall contribution is valuable and thought-provoking, but strengthening the methodological explanation and empirical grounding would further improve its academic impact.