Preface

This research work is an attempt to explore and analyze the concept of care in feminist ethical philosophy. The basic notion that comes into play in feminist ethical philosophy is the male biased conception of justice. The feminists have emphatically argued that the concept of justice is a male notion. The feminists have as such looking at the ‘woman question’ have preferred to deal with care as a ethically fundamental principle. Therefore, the feminist ethic is an attempt to construct a consistent argument around the concept of care in a fashion that presents it virtually as a binary opposition to justice.

The concept of care within the feminist ethical philosophy can be looked at through three perspectives. We can look at the concept of care in terms of moral capacities that is looking at learning of moral principles classified as justice and contrasting it with developing moral disposition which is associated with the concept of care. The second approach will be to look at care as concerned with responses appropriate in a particular case in contrast with justice which is concerned mainly with problem resolution through principles which have universal applicability. The third perspective would be understanding care as a
moral concept attending to responsibilities and relationships in contrast with justice as a moral concept attending to rights and fairness.

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