

We are referring to Schmidt

Abstract

The paper presents a novel approach to reference of proper names called 'genealogical descriptivism' (of a Millian-Fregean type advocated in Garcia-Carpintero 2018) and argues for its initial plausibility in a certain range of cases. The semantic account is supplemented by a metaphilosophical argument supporting the view that partiality of proposed approach - as well as partiality of many other approaches - should be accepted on philosophical grounds, while a complete theory of proper names delimiting all relevant varieties of reference in a principled way shall be deferred to further interdisciplinary research, encompassing empirical input of linguistics and social sciences.