

## **Constitutive vs. Normative Accounts of Speech and Mental Acts**

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At the end of his "Promisings and other Social Acts: Their Constituents and Structure", Kevin Mulligan briefly considers the question of the normativity of speech and mental acts. This has been a matter hotly debated in recent years; several authors (including Kathrin Glüer-Pagin and Åsa Wikforss have contended that, properly understood, superficially-looking normative notions that we deploy in characterizing such acts should be understood in a constitutive, non-normative sense (in contrast with views such as the one recently defended by Tim Williamson about assertion, on which this is a constitutively normative act). The goal of my paper would be to critically examine these suggestions and defend a normative account.