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| **ASSIGNMENT - PRELIM** | | | |
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1. **Define the following terminologies:**
   1. Ethics   
        
      Ethics are the moral principles that guide individuals’ behavior, defining what is right and wrong in personal and professional contexts. It involves study of what is right and wrong, as well the duties and responsibilities that individuals have towards others and society.
   2. Moral

Moral refers to the principles of rules of right and wrong behavior, often based on societal, cultural, or religious beliefs. It guides how individuals should act in various situations.

* 1. Values

Values are the beliefs or ideals that individuals or groups consider important and guide their behavior and decision-making. They reflect what is most important to a person or society, such as honesty, respect, or fairness.

* 1. Law

Law is a system of rules established and enforced by a governing authority to regulate behavior, maintain order, and ensure justice within a society. Laws are mandatory and have legal consequences if violated.

1. **Give and explain at least 5 ethical theories**

* **Utilitarianism** is a consequentialist theory that focuses on the outcomes of actions. It suggests that the most ethical choice is the one that results in the greatest good for the greatest number of people. This theory emphasizes maximizing overall happiness or well-being while minimizing suffering.
* **Deontology,** developed by philosopher Immanuel Kant, is an ethical theory that emphasizes duties and rules. It argues that actions are morally right or wrong based on whether they adhere to certain principles or duties, regardless of the consequences. According to this theory, certain actions are inherently right or wrong, and individuals have a moral obligation to follow these rules.
* **Virtue Ethics** focuses on the character and virtues of the moral agent rather than on specific actions or consequences. Originating from Aristotle, this theory suggests that ethical behavior arises from developing good character traits (virtues) such as courage, honesty, and compassion. A virtuous person will naturally make ethical decisions.
* **Social Contract Theory** posits that individuals agree to form a society and abide by certain rules and norms for the benefit of all. The theory suggests that moral and political obligations arise from an implicit contract or agreement among individuals to create a functioning society. It emphasizes the role of mutual consent and cooperation in determining ethical behavior.
* **Ethical Relativism** holds that moral standards are not absolute but are relative to the beliefs and values of individuals or cultures. According to this theory, what is considered right or wrong depends on the societal or cultural context, meaning that different societies may have different moral standards, and no universal ethical standard applies to all.

**Case 1:**

Imagine that you are involved in a shipwreck situation - a ship has started to sink in the middle of the ocean. Eleven people have jumped into a life-boat that has been designed for a maximum of ten people only, and the life-boat is also starting to sink. What should the passengers do? Throw one person overboard and save ten lives? Or stick to the principle of "do not kill", which means that everybody will drown?

Throwing one person overboard to save ten lives seems like a logical choice, especially from a utilitarian perspective, where the focus is on maximizing the overall good. In this case, saving ten people rather than letting everyone die might seem like the lesser evil.

However, on the other hand, deliberately deciding to throw someone overboard feels like an intentional act of killing, which is morally troubling. If I stick to the principle of “do not kill”. Then I’d argue that no one has the right to decide who lives and who dies. In this view, it would be wrong to sacrifice one person, even if it meant saving others, because it involves actively endling a life.

Ultimately, the decision might come down to what the group on the lifeboat decides together. If there is a consensus or little less morally conflicting. But personally, I would struggle with the idea of actively participating in someone’s death, even if it meant saving more lives.

This scenario is a non-win situation where any choice has significant moral implications, and it highlights how complex and challenging ethical decisions can be extreme circumstances.