Video: *Ghostbusters – opening scene*

The person performing the study allows the woman, whom he has a crush on, to always win the test. That way he doesn’t have to shock her, and can possibly seduce her. While at the same time he always shocks the boy, even when correct.

Is it right to let somebody go through pain in order to get some personal gain?

I believe most would say no, it is not ethical. However I wouldn’t assume that this rule applies to all situations similar to this.

Is it ethical to use electrical shocks in the name of science?

Back then there were no or little restrictions on this, but modern laws do not allow suffering in the name of science.

What if the subject agreed to be shocked? What if a scientific breakthrough was made because of the study?

Video: *Frasier – Professional Ethics*

A man pretends to be a distressed man’s psychologist. Essentially finding a loophole in society’s ethical code.

Is it ethical to “find a loophole” in order to relieve oneself from stress?

*Intro to Ethics*

Historical philosophers attempt to come up with universal arguments; they apply to each and every thing. Modern philosophers focus on specific problems one at a time.

There are many different situations that involve stealing. Like stealing a car, or holding extra change after a transaction. Are both equally unethical? Where is the line drawn? (Kant vs Bentham)

Kant: If stealing is wrong, then you can’t steal food to feed your family

Bentham: If stealing leads to a positive and justified ends, then the act may be ethical (Ends justifies means)

Individual relativism: Thinking that everybody is different, so everybody should decide what is ethical for them.

Cultural relativism: There are rules to follow that society came up with, but every society is different and has a different set of moral code.

Just because there are universal principles that philosophers come up with, it doesn’t mean that they apply to everything. There are times where relativism may appear to be the more ethical choice of thought. Just because there are rules that society makes up doesn’t mean it is ideal for a specific individual, that individual knows themselves better than anybody else. Or do they?

Video: *The Office: Business Ethics (Jim, Dwight, Meredith, Holly)*

Meredith is sleeping with another man in order to give the company discounts on supplies.

“What is right, what is wrong? Who’s to say in the end, it is all unknowable.”

Should one steal pencils from the office?

Is it right to blend personal life with work life? Is it really just work, or is it actually personal?

Is it ethical of the company not to terminate Meredith?

Is it ethical that Meredith is even given the discount in the first place?

Is it ethical that the boss followed corporates orders to not report Meredith’s actions?