When considering my actions, 3 main ethic formulas are propsed. Utilitarianism, altruistic and egoistic.

Utalitarian: count everyone as equal, the best decisions have the greatest happiest to unhappiness ratio. No personal interest

Altruistic, promote the happiness of others over ourselves

Egoistic, promote our own happiness over others

Promoting my own welfare will likely promote the welfare of those around me.

Capitalism in terms of Utilitarianism… is it not potentially egoistic as well?

Do more good by concentrating on my enviornment then spreading to thin trying to be a do-gooder

“You are in a much better position to produce good among those people whose needs and interests you already know than among strangers; and, of course, the person whose needs and interests you probably know best of all (though not always) is yourself”

My thought in response. I agree for the most part, but this creates polarity in levels of happiness based on demographic regions and similarities. If resources correlate with happiness in a logarithmic scale, in resource rich enviornments we are using lots of resources within our enviornment only for small effects, simply because it is our own enviornment. Much more impact would be created by bridging gaps between resource rich and resource poor areas.

When we act in self interest, it is not often from the utilitarian perspective. If it was, then happy rich enviornments would disperse and find the least happy enviornments in order to have the greatest impact. Helping oneself first would never be the right answer, unless holding off helping others will benefit more people later. This does not take into account helping others now, will have a positive impact on the people around those that were helped, so sooner SHOULD be favoured for helping others as it generates the most happiness in an exponential way.

Utalitarian would pull the lever to kill 1 person instead of 5

Utalitarians are never certain

We must be content basing our actions on estimates of probability

Based off of what Kant claims, intentionals matter, even if the actions are the same

Treat other computer users as people, not economic units. This is seen so often, especially in advertising and social media. Ex: bots that add followers.

Kant thought humans were an end, had instrinsic worth above any value. But animals are just a means to the end that is people.

I do not believe that self conscious desires and goals should be what earns a creature the right to be valued. If you have ever lived with a dog, you likely know that they have no goals, but have significant emotions, I would argue more so then human. I believe this capacity to be harmed and self punish through mental states is enough to give a creature intrinsic value. Because of this, I would be more utilitarian, seeing as a dogs happiness or unhappiness would be taken into consideration when I act.

Humans may be rational agents, but what about the case where a human is paralyzed and unable to act and is not a free agent. Do they lose their intrinsic worth?

Kant argues that being able to reason with (does this require language?) implies intrinsic value.  
  
When we make a rational decision, it is our belief that this is the way people should always be treated in this situation. Hence the ‘Universal Law’.

-When someone treats us poorly, they are decreeing that this is how people are to be treated. So treating them the same way in return we are doing nothing wrong from his perspective.

-So people who expect to be treated better then they treat others, inherently have an internal conflict as they are unable to make a decree that they fully agree with

Criminals draw the punishment upon themselves.

Many view happiness as what they do not have in the present, but seems achievable in our life. This makes me realize that maybe I am not falling short of my ideals and goals, as the happiness I feel they will bring, is merely the acknowledgment that I lack having accomplished that goal at present. But I feel that it is accomplishable.

When viewing others whom we admire, if we are to be admired back, we are by extent brought up to our own admiration.

Money is only valuable as a means to something else.

‘Good’ is the end aimed at by an accumulation of other pursuits. In medicine, ‘good’ is the pursuit of health, which is aimed at in every sub action they do.

We are all working toward a universal final end, yet we differing views in what that is, and for the most part, are uncertain of what it is. Therefore we are working toward something we have yet to define. This is something I can strongly relate to, and I feel that it is okay. Amusingly, a great connection is Miley Cyrus’s ‘The Climb’ (Yes I am relating a a philosophical discussion to A Pop Song by Miley Cyrus). Our goals being undefined allows us to have them just out of reach, So we will always be climbing over obstacles, making progress to an undefined end. By realizing this, we are able to bring our attention to the climb itself, and realize that it is not about our undefined destination but our current enviornment and how we are constantly tackling current obstacles to make our current situation better. This seems like a fantastic way for a creature that is so consumed with thoughts of time, to affect the present while avoiding the difficulties of remaining present.

If we have a purpose, and our defining characteristic is reason, then our purpose must be achieved through reason.

If an eye has a purpose and a foot has a purpose… and that purpose is to serve man, and mans purpose is to use rational to… in the case of religion, serve god. This falls into the humoncular fallacy, as this would suggest that all who have unique function, have purpose to server anothers purpose. Therefore a god would either have a purpose to serve some other being. Or there is an end somewhere, And that end would be whichever function has no purpose.

-our purpose is to use rational to the best of our abilities… is a carrots purpose to gather nutition to the best of it’s ability? A smaller carrot is just as much a carrot and serves it’s purpose.