

SHORT DEFINITIONS OF ALL ETHICAL THEORIES

RIGHTS state all possible rights then show conflict of rights

a justified claim to a certain kind of treatment from others

Positive rights to have actions done for us: food, clothing, shelter, life.

Negative rights to do what we want as long as we do not violate rights of others.

UTILITARIANISM weigh ALL benefits against ALL harm for EVERYONE involved

promote consequences that bring the greatest good and the least harm overall.

VIRTUE ETHICS show consistency over time after you name specific virtues and vices that apply

we should develop good moral characters or work to become virtuous people.

Some vices: reckless, cowardly, inflexibility, dishonesty, arrogance, disloyalty, impatience, ignorance, irresponsibility.

CARING weigh weak caring against strong caring

WEAK SENSE

we should care more for those closest to us.

Relationships with others bring special commitments and regards. Caring Relationships with individuals and with our communities matter, and can outweigh rights, utility, and sense of duty.

STRONG SENSE

we should never ignore our natural sense of caring for others

we sympathize with the pain, the needs, and the lives of others.

We care about other human beings. Lack of caring comes from need for caring not met.

JUSTICE weigh what you see as correct distribution against wrong distribution used by those involved

treat equals equally, unequals unequally

Distribute benefits and burdens equally (egalitarian)

Distribute benefits according to merit

Distribute benefits and burdens according to work effort

Distribute benefits and burdens according to productivity

Distribute benefits and burdens according to market demands

Distribute benefits according to need &/or

Distribute burdens according to ability.

RAWLES CONTRACT THEORY (JUSTICE AS FAIRNESS)

Look for NEGATIVE RIGHTS then EQUAL OPPORTUNITY then HELPING LEAST ADVANTAGED

ORIGINAL POSITION **Rational agents under a veil of ignorance would agree. Each person has equal RIGHT to LIBERTIES compatible w/ liberties for all**

Distribution of benefits and burdens so that positions are open to all (EQUAL OPPORTUNITY for JOBS) and GREATEST BENEFIT possible arises for the LEAST ADVANTAGED

KANTIAN ETHICS CATEGORICAL IMPERATIVE. [2 versions]

Look for NON-CONTRADICTION then for EVERYONE WOULD AGREE

CATEGORICAL IMPERATIVE act so the maxim for what you do you could will as a universal rule.

A. non-contradiction

B every reasonable person would agree (rational will)

VERSION 2 treat all persons as ends and never merely as means (DO NOT USE THIS VERSION)