

Objections

Divine Command Theory:

Euthyphro Argument

God does things because they are good (God isn't necessarily good)

or

Things are good because god does them (What is good is arbitrary)

Ethical Egoism

Horrible Consequences (some action may come back to not be in your self-interest)

Subjectivity (There is no objective morality, it's up to each person)

Equal Treatment (You should always treat yourself better than other people, but Eq Treat states you should treat everyone equal)

Moral Relativism

Criticism Objection (you can't criticize people in other cultures, because morality is relative)

Utilitarianism

Practicality – How can you calculate all of the things necessary, it isn't possible?

Response: No one said that doing the right thing was easy; all we should do is our best.

Invasiveness – Every tiny decision is a matter for utilitarianism.

Response: This isn't really invasive instead comprehensive, everything has a relative mass, things may be moral matters, but they won't have as much weight

Supererogation – there is no such things as supererogation, heroic acts aren't heroic, rather just normal things that occur when following duty.

Response: You are just a hero for doing your duty, there may not be supererogative actions but there are heroic actions.

Simpson's Paradox – a set can be partitioned into a subset that each have a property opposite to that of the superset.

A couple with 200 happiness could have a kid and then the family would have 250 happiness but the parents may have less, but there still is more overall

Agent-Relative Intuitions

No reason to choose your child over another if both are drowning

Nothing is Absolutely Wrong – Some actions awful action could be good, murder (which is bad) could still be good.

Deontology

Generality – leads to inconsistent judgements, saving as many lives as you can in the organ robber case.

Agent-neutral intuitions – nepotism and advantages in from preferences wouldn't exist and these wouldn't be considered in moral actions.

Horrible Consequences – You might think you are doing a good thing, but might in turn cause a bad thing to happen.

Virtue Ethics

Compatibly with evil – like mafia virtues

Clashing Virtues – lying to someone when they ask if they look fat (honesty vs. kindness)

Relativism About Virtues –

Scripture Argument

You have to assume god exists in order to conclude that god exists – “begging the question”
If historical claims are true, the religious claims are, but there is no way to prove either.

Ontological Argument

Lost Island – It’s more perfect to exist than not to exist, so the theoretically it should exist, but these hypotheticals don’t exist.

Reverse Parody – what if it’s more perfect not to exist, then god must not exist or isn’t perfect
Existence is not a property – Things either exist or they don’t, it can’t be a pro or a con for a thing

Cosmological Argument

Inconsistency – If everything was caused by something prior then, the chain must go on for infinity

Problem of the attributes – assumption that god is an uncaused thing,

Alternative Scientific explanations – big bang theory

Teleological Argument

Weakness in the watch analogy

Alternative explanation – Evolution

Problem of attributes – how can you attribute intelligent design to god

Problem of uniqueness - why does there only one designer

Explaining the complexity of God – Could god have a designer

Objections to Pascal’s Wager

Unforced wagering – can’t you be agnostic

The odds of God – are the odds really 50-50?

Assumption of Christian theology – does god actually care whatever you believe? One god? Heaven or hell?

The value of your life – is there value in not believing, are you more free? Does committing to god take away from your life.

Alternate Ending – not reap benefits, because only reason you believed was on chance.

The problem of other gods – this only complies with Christian theism.

Involuntarism of belief and self-deception – can you believe in something that’s not in yourself
se interest.

Objection to Pluralism

Free Will

Divine Foreknowledge – if there is a omniscient god then he already knows what you will do in the future.

Atheism and Agnosticism – just accept that god does not exist (on Premise 1)

Response – accept that god isn’t omniscient

Aristotle’s Answer – basically that there is not fact about the future, no statement about the future is true or false (on Premise 2)

Response – but we can still kind of accurately predict the future

A Regress of Reasons for Acting – everything you do can be boiled down to previous decisions and outside forces, were basically just digger wasps

Infinite Regress – Everything is the result of something before it, so there is an infinite amount of things that occur before.

The Dilemma Argument – Determinism, there exists only one possible future

Incompatibilism – either we have no free will or determinism is false, basically some events are random

Response – But randomness doesn't give us control, we still don't have free will

Agent Causation – human beings among others can spontaneously begin a new chain of causation, we can alter the determined path

Mystery – it seems that you always do something for some sort of reason, or it for some random reason, but this randomness doesn't give you free will

Magic – basically agent causation asserts that humans can alter how the physical world can exist, something about us is inherently magic, or more powerful.

Compatibilism – you're free as long as what you are acting on your desires

Too Little Freedom – we still aren't free, there are still things that we desire that we can't do, like being a millionaire or king of the world

Too Much Freedom – everything you do is free, even things that appear to obviously appear to be forced, like being robbed at gun point.