Review Questions:

1. Describe Nowheresville. How is this world different from our world?

Nowheresville, a world like our own except that people do not have rights. As a result, people in this world cannot make moral claims when they are treated unjustly. They cannot demand or claim just treatment, and so they are deprived of self-respect and human dignity. It is different in a way that the people who reside in Nowheresville don’t practice their rights.

1. Explain the doctrine of logical correlativity of rights and duties. What is Feinberg’s position of this doctrine?

The doctrine of logical correlativity has two parts. According to Feinberg it is a doctrine that (i) all duties entail other people’s rights, and (ii) all rights entail other people’s duties. Feinberg’s position is both a yes and no. In a sense it is a yes because all duties are correlated with the rights of those to whom the duty is owed. It is a no in a sense that there are numerous classes of duties, both legal and non-legal kind. And some of these duties are not correlated with the rights of other person.

1. How does Feinberg explain the concept of personal desert? How would personal desert work in Nowheresville?

The concept of personal desert means that when a person is said to deserve something good from us what is meant in parts is that there would be certain propriety in our giving that good thing to him in virtue of the kind of person he is, perhaps, or more likely, in virtue of some specific thing he has done.

I think that the concept of personal desert will not work on Nowheresville because as we all know, it is a place where rights are not practiced.

1. Explain the notion of a sovereign right monopoly. How would this work in Nowheresville according to Feinberg?

The notion of sovereign right monopoly is the origin of the idea of deserving good or bad treatment from others. According to Feinberg, the master doesn’t have any obligations in giving rewards to his servant for his good service. However, it is still up to the master if he would give a grateful response for the good service of his servant. I think this notion would work in Nowheresville. Based from the explanation, we can say that the servants are not practicing their rights because they can’t appeal to their masters about the rewards that they should get.

1. What are claim-rights? Why does Feinberg think they are morally important?

Right is a kind of claim, and claim is an assertion of rights. Feinberg think that is morally important to claim our right because it will enable us to stand up for something we believed in.

Discussion Questions:

1. Does Feinberg make a convincing case for the importance of rights? Why or why not?

Yes. Feinberg make a convincing case for the importance of rights. He explained thoroughly why we should practice our rights. And base from his writings I do agree with some of the notions he discussed.

1. Can you give a noncircular definition of claim-right?

I think there is no suitable noncircular definition of claim or rights. Because claim-rights apply in the different situations in the society therefore it is always circular in nature.