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### **Assignment: Ethical Theory Application**

Play the role of a university administrator/board of director, who has been asked to set up an Ethics Task Force in the university. The task force will deal with ethical dilemmas that may confront school staff and advise in establishing ethical guidelines for the treatment of students.

#### **What kind of persons would you look for to fill this position?**

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I would look for individuals who possess a strong moral compass and a deep understanding of ethical principles. The members of the task force should have a broad range of expertise and diverse perspectives to ensure that ethical dilemmas are approached from various angles.

#### **What values would you want them to hold?**

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In terms of values, I would want the members of the task force to hold integrity, fairness, and accountability in high regard. They should be committed to upholding the highest standards of ethical conduct and be able to navigate complex ethical situations with clarity and sound judgment.

#### **What types of ethical sensitivity would you be looking for?**

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I would be looking for members who have a high degree of ethical sensitivity. This means that they should have the ability to recognize ethical dilemmas when they arise and have the sensitivity to understand how their actions can impact others.

#### **What basic ethical principles would you advise the task force to follow?**

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- Members of the task force should treat all individuals with respect and dignity and recognize their inherent worth and value.
- The task force should strive to do good and promote the well-being of all individuals involved.
- The task force should not cause harm to others and take steps to prevent harm where possible.
- The task force should be fair and impartial in their decision-making processes and ensure that all individuals are treated equitably.

**On Stoicism.** I would advise the task force to apply Stoicism as a tool for developing moral character and making ethical decisions. Stoicism emphasizes the importance of rationality, self-control, and the pursuit of virtue in all aspects of life. The task force can use these principles to cultivate the moral character of school staff and students and to approach ethical dilemmas with objectivity and clarity. Additionally, the task force can apply Stoicism's emphasis on living in

accordance with nature to encourage a holistic approach to ethical decision-making that considers the well-being of all stakeholders involved. By incorporating Stoic principles into their work, the task force can promote ethical behavior that is grounded in reason, virtue, and empathy.

***On Utilitarianism.*** I would advise the task force to apply utilitarianism as a means of promoting the greatest good for the greatest number of individuals. The task force should consider the potential consequences of their actions and decisions and aim to maximize the overall well-being and happiness of all stakeholders involved. When dealing with ethical dilemmas, the task force should evaluate the potential outcomes of various actions and choose the one that will have the most positive impact on the greatest number of individuals. However, the task force should also consider the potential negative consequences of their decisions and take steps to mitigate harm as much as possible. Ultimately, the task force should strive to establish ethical guidelines for the treatment of students that prioritize their well-being, while also considering the needs and interests of all other stakeholders involved.

***On Pragmatism.*** I would advise the task force to apply pragmatism in their decision-making process. The task force should focus on practical solutions to ethical dilemmas, considering what is feasible and effective in the given context. The task force should consider the practical implications of various actions and decisions and choose the option that will produce the best outcomes in the given situation. The task force should prioritize real-world outcomes over abstract ethical principles or theories and be willing to adapt their approach as needed to achieve practical solutions to ethical challenges. Ultimately, the task force should aim to establish ethical guidelines for the treatment of students that are grounded in practical considerations and designed to achieve the best possible outcomes for all stakeholders involved.

***On Situation Ethics.*** I would advise the task force to apply situation ethics by prioritizing the unique circumstances of each ethical dilemma they encounter. The task force should consider the specific details of each situation and determine the best course of action based on the most loving and compassionate response in the given context. The task force should be willing to adapt their approach based on the unique needs and circumstances of each situation, rather than relying on fixed ethical principles or rules. Ultimately, the task force should aim to establish ethical guidelines for the treatment of students that are flexible and adaptable to the specific needs and circumstances of each individual student and situation.

***On Ethical Relativism.*** I would advise the task force to apply ethical relativism with caution. While it can be useful in acknowledging the importance of cultural and societal factors in ethical decision-making, it can also lead to a lack of universal ethical standards. Therefore, the task force should consider cultural and societal factors in ethical dilemmas but prioritize upholding the broader ethical principles. If cultural practices conflict with these principles, the task force should prioritize upholding them while seeking to understand and accommodate cultural practices, when possible, without compromising these principles.