# Contemporary Moral Problems

## October 29, 2012

Warren Continued

* **Personhood**
  + **5 Traits**
    - Consciousness – Of objects and events internal and external to the being. Capacity of feeling pain
    - Reasoning – Solve new and complex problems
    - Self-Motivated Activity – Activity which is relatively independent of internal and external control
    - Capacity to Communicate – Message in a variety of types
    - Self-Awareness -
  + **2 Points**
    - Jointly sufficient, but it is not necessary to possess all 5.
    - Anything that lacks all 1-5 is NOT a person
* **Objections**
  + **Fetus has a right to life in virtue of being ‘like’ a person**
    - Warren: Late stage fetuses are no more person like than many other creatures to which we don’t attribute personhood.
  + **Fetus has a right to life in virtue of being a potential person**
    - Warren: The rights of actual persons always outweigh the rights of potential persons
  + **Infanticide Objection**
    - An objection *to* Warren. A newborn infant is not much more of a person after it’s born compared to a guppy. It doesn’t have reasoning, self-awareness, self-motivated activity, and not reasoning. The only one it has is consciousness.