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## The Standard Answer

Philosophers and economists tend to think that the right thing to do in a Prisoner's Dilemma is to defect.

Why?

Because defecting **dominates** not defecting, in the sense of Lecture 5.3.1:

- If Jones defects, you'll be better off if you defect than if you don't.
- If Jones doesn't defect, you'll be better off if you defect than if you don't.

So: regardless of what Jones does, you'll be better off if you defect.

### Problem 1

1/1 point (ungraded)

Suppose that Jones will, in fact, defect. Will you be better off if you defect? (Remember that you are in separate interrogation rooms, so there is nothing you can do to affect Jones's decision.)

☒ Yes.

☐ No. ✓



#### Explanation

We know that Jones will defect. So if you defect you'll get -9,000, and if you don't you'll get -10,000. So you'll be better off by 1,000 if you defect.

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## Problem 2

1/1 point (ungraded)

Suppose that Jones will, in fact, keep quiet.

Will you be better off if you defect?

☒ Yes.

☐ No.



### Explanation

We know that Jones will keep quiet. So if you defect you'll get 0, and if you don't you'll get -1,000. So you'll be better off by 1,000 if you defect.

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