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Blog 3

When it comes to what is plausible and what is not in terms of ethical theories, society must observe how those theories are derived and a how a person views the society around them. A person may see Respect for Persons to be the most plausible because it more focuses on the individual instead of a group (Burgess 33). Some people may believe that people need to work together to be happy, and therefor support Utilitarianism belief. The most plausible theory would be Pluralistic-Act-Utilitarianism because it is the most realistic. With all of the good in the world, it is impossible for pleasure to be the only thing driving humans to be good. It also does not make sense for use Rule Utilitarianism because people are too diverse.

A world where everyone based their ethical decision with pleasure being the only measurement of happiness is unfulfilling (Burgess 24). What about other intrinsic goods like the creation of relationships and honesty (Burgess 28)? There also comes the idea that different people share different hobbies and interests that allow them to feel happiness. This is why the pluralistic version of utilitarianism is the most realistic and most understandable in terms of explaining what is considered *good*. Along with the pluralistic views, it is important to realize what *act-utilitarianism* is. Pluralistic-Act-Utilitarianism supports judgements of one’s actions on a case-by-case basis. No two people are identical neither in their way of thinking, the way they look or how they react to certain situations.

There should be some value put into the people that are affected. Not just a quantitative observation of the outcome consequences (Burgess 27). Utilitarianism supports the idea that “it is right to kill one or a few innocent individuals if doing so led to an overall better state of affairs” (Burgess 27). Utilitarianism inherently disregards individualism. Majority will always rule. The answer to any ethical problem is the solution that will result in the greatest amount of good for the greatest amount of people. Perhaps adding some value to people when contemplating on a decision would allow for a better understanding of what is really as stake. That way, a better decision can be made and now both the outcome of one’s actions and the value of human life, in reference to the killing one instead of five people scenarios, are accounted for.

Work Cited

Burgess, Richard. “Engineering Ethics”, Respect for Persons and Utilitarianism, Texas Tech University, Accessed September 29, 2018