

Pop Quiz!

* WYR:

* Read minds

* or

* Fly

ETHICS PART 3

One final decision

Kant Solves Everything

- * How do you know what your “duty” is?
- * Since human beings are rational creatures, they “ought” to behave in a rational way, and for **Kant** this means that one “ought” always to behave as if one’s course of conduct were to become a universal law.
- * **A person should always act as if every action were to become a universal law.**
- * If an act that one commits can pass the test of being “universalized,” it will be a moral act.

Low Marx for Capitalism

- * What is Capitalism?
- * Would Marx say it is ethical?
- * Do YOU think it is ethical?



Jeremy's Spoken

- * Jeremy Bentham (1748 - 1832)
- * **The Utilitarians conceived** of their philosophical work as an attempt to lay down an objective principle for determining when a given action is “right” or “wrong.”
- * The Utilitarians called this maxim **“the principle of utility.”**
- * The principle states:
 - * **an action is right insofar as it tends to produce the greatest happiness for the greatest number.**

1 is Greater than 5

- * If an action produces an excess of beneficial effects over harmful ones, then it is “right;” otherwise, it is not.
- * The fundamental point is this: the **consequences of a given action determine its “rightness” or “wrongness,” not the motives from which it is done.**
- * The main result of Utilitarianism as a **moral theory is to separate the “rightness” or “wrongness” of an action from the “goodness” or “badness” of the agent who performs the action.**



Paging Dr. Bentham

- * Five mortally ill patients are in care at a hospital, all of whom will soon die. At the same time, a sixth man is undergoing a routine checkup at the same hospital. A transplant surgeon in residence finds that the only medical means of saving the five ailing patients would be to slay the sixth and transplant into them his healthy organs. Legal ramifications and other peripheral matters disregarded, **it morally right to do so?**

Open Up Your Eyes to See the Signs



- * Jean Baudrillard (1929 - 2007)
- * Modern society has replaced all “reality” and “meaning” with “symbols and signs,” and that the human experience is of “a simulation of reality” rather than “reality” itself.
- * What sort of symbols and signs represent reality?
- * Do you agree or disagree?

Simul what?

- * Simulacra is an unreal representation of reality
- * Simulation is an imitation or reenactment
- * Baudrillard believed that society has become so reliant on simulacra that it has lost contact with the “real world” on which the simulacra are based.
- * Texting/Snapchat; messaging online; email; voicemail... What is the “philosophy” behind **why** they were invented – and **what do they really do for us?**



SUPER MEGA ULTRA HYPERREALITY 2

- * In groups (or by yourself), read the handout and discuss the following: (if discussion is taking place then no answers must be written, if discussion is short lived or non existent then expect to write!)
- * Can you think of a few more examples of “reality by proxy”? (Think of different industries)
- * Can you tell the difference between fantasy and reality? How can you be sure?
- * What fulfillment or happiness do you personally gain from the hyperreality described?
- * Critique the view of Disneyland being an imaginary world, does it hold up? Does this change your view of Disneyland? Why or why not?
- * Can you think of a few more examples of the hyperreality described in casinos and Disneyland?