

- 1) Give me an example of something that you think is morally wrong? Stealing
- 2) Why is that thing morally wrong? I believe that stealing is wrong because you should not take what is not yours, instead just ask for it or go out and buy it so that you have your own.

Main thing to take away from the class 3 terms

1) Mastering the vocabulary

Before you can understand what ethics is, you need to understand what philosophy is. The word "philosophy" comes from the ancient Greek word for love (philo) and wisdom (sophia)

We need a definition that applies to the **academic discipline** that today is called **philosophy**.

Philosophy is an area of **investigation**.

**Investigation**: The action of investigating something or someone; formal or systematic examination or research.

In this way, Philosophy is like:

- The physical science
- The social sciences
- Historical research
- Investigative journalism
- Detective Work

They are all different ways that people seek **truth**.

But philosophy is different from other forms of investigation

**Philosophy**: The study of the fundamental nature of knowledge, reality, and existence, especially when considered as an academic discipline.

- God
- The meaning of Life
- Knowledge
- Truth
- Reality
- Free Will

Ethics is a branch of philosophy.

**Ethics**: Moral principles that govern a person's behavior or the conduct of an activity.

Example of ethical questions: What is it for an action to be morally good or morally bad?

What is the morally best way for people to live?  
Is morality objective, or is it completely subjective?  
Does morality depend on God? Does it depend on society?  
Is abortion morally permissible? What about physician-assisted suicide? Or Capital punishment?

Because ethics is an area of philosophy, it is an area of investigation, which means that it is a search for truth.

We have the one Chapter reading for our next class and then look over the book or the lecture and he loves doing definitions from the lecture notes for the pop up quiz that we have to take

Investigation: An attempt to find the truth about the world.

As a search for truth, it depends on reasoning and evidence.  
We are also gonna be looking at arguments in this class.

It is important that you strive to engage in

What motivates each one.

Genuine Inquiry: Inquiry(investigation, research) that is motivated by the desire to find the truth, no matter what that truth happens to be. (Wants to know the truth even if the truth is bad)  
-This motive is sometimes called the scientific attitude.  
An Example: Seeking a test to learn whether you have the gene for a horrible disease, such as Huntington's Disease (HD)

My Example: Who killed my mom or dad?

Rather than

Pseudo-Inquiry: Merely apparent inquiry that is motivated by the desire to defend a claim that you have already decided on independently of the evidence or against it.(trying to support a claim or settlement before you looked at the evidence).

There are two kinds

-Sham Reasoning: The kind of Pseudo-Inquiry that occurs when you defend a claim that you really believe is true but your belief is immune to evidence or argument-No matter what the evidence shows, you will not change your mind about it.

An Example: Some (not all) of the people who really believe that the 2020 Presidential election was stolen from Donald Trump.-Forcing it upon someone

My Example: When someone has a religious belief and tries to force it upon someone.

-Fake Reasoning: The kind of pseudo-inquiry that occurs when you defend a claim, not because you have sincere commitment to it (you don't really care whether the claim is true or false), but because you think doing so will somehow benefit you. Fake reasoning is not the same thing as simply lying.

My example: Companies that sell fake pill for body fat loss and fake advertising.

-The Least an account of morality must contain in order to even be about morality at all. Morality is, at the very least, the effort to guide one conduct by reason, that is to do what there is the best reason for doing.

While giving equal weight to the interest of each individual affected by one's action.

**Anencephaly**: the condition of an infant born with its cerebrum, cerebellum and part of its skull and scalp missing infants born with his condition(will never be conscious) and almost always dies within several days after birth.

-Anencephaly occurs today in 1 in 5,000 pregnancies

-Over 95 percent of these fetuses identified prenatally are aborted. Of those carried to term, 60 percent are stillborn

-Anencephalic infants who are born living usually die within a few hours or days, but with maximal supportive care, some could survive indefinitely.

-Only about 30 recipients a year would benefit from it

**Sentience**: The ability to experience feelings and sensations; a being without sentience is completely unconscious

**Argument**: an attempt to convince someone that a claim is true by providing reason or evidence in support of that claim; the reasons/evidence are the argument premises and the claim that those premises support is the argument conclusion.

Is Premise 1 True?

1)If we can benefit someone without harming anyone else, we ought to do so.

Is Premise 2 True?

2)Transplanting the organs would benefit the other children without harming baby Theresa.

Is Morality Objective?

- 1) In some societies such as among the Korowai cannibalism is believed to be morally right
- 2) In other societies such as our own cannibalism is believed to be morally wrong
- 3) Therefore, cannibalism is neither objectively right nor objectively wrong it is merely a matter of opinion that varies from culture to culture

**Objectivity:** Something is objective when it is the way it is it has the properties or characteristics it has independently of what anyone believes about it, thinks about it or feels about it

- A close synonym of "Objective" REAL
- The earth orbits the sun
- Water is H<sub>2</sub>O

**Subjectivity:** Something is subjectivity when there are no objective truths or facts of the matter about it, only opinions about it, beliefs about it or feelings about it.

The next pop quiz will come from the sept 18 through the 25

Horn 1 DCT is true

There are three troubling consequences of DCT

- 1)DCT is "mysterious"
- 2)DCT "makes gods commands arbitrary
- 3)DCT "provides the wrong reason for moral principles"

1: If divine Command theory is true, then some other claim is also true

2: But that other claim is not true

3: So divine command theory is not true

The Mystery Argument

1: If Divine Command Theory is true, then it is possible to make something right

2: But this can't be true, because it is too mysterious; it is impossible to understand how someone even an omnipotent being— can just make an action right

3: So Divine Command Theory is not true

The Arbitrariness Argument

1:If Divine Command Theory is true, then gods commands are arbitrary based on random choice or whim rather than on principle or reason

2:But god commands are not arbitrary

3:So divine command theory is not true

The wrong reason argument

1: If divine command theory is true then the only reason that an immoral act like child abuse is wrong is because god has forbidden it

2: But that god has forbidden it isn't the only reason child abuse is wrong

3: So divine command theory is not true