

PHI 801-52: Ethics in a Global Society (Fall 2024)

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Assignment #1

Select One (1) Core Essential Element from the Syllabus Outline:

- a. Weekend Residency: Create a 350-word original discussion paper (with cited sources) during the week of residency. Be prepared to discuss and engage with other students during the live sessions. Post this document in DIAL.

Ethics In Today's Global Society

Ethics! This is a term seldom heard in everyday conversation. So, what is it and is it true that according to the 20th century philosopher, Albert Camus, that “A man without ethics is like a wild beast loosed upon this world.” (Academy of Ideas, 2013). In the western world, ethics originated in ancient Greece over 2000 years ago by Socrates and the Sophists (2013, Notomi, 2022). Ethics is often defined as the study of morality, of what is good and bad, of virtue (2013; Singer, n.d.). A more detailed description given by John Deigh is, “Ethics is a study of what are good or bad ends to pursue in life and what it is right or wrong to do in the conduct of life. It is therefore, above all, a practical discipline. Its primary aim is to determine how one ought to live and what actions one ought to do in the conduct of one's life” (2013). Morality is another term that is being challenged in today's society. Deigh connotes that, “Morality is the standard of right and wise conduct whose authority in practical thought is determined by reason rather than custom” (2013).

Ethics is being challenged and redefined before our very eyes. Today, through syncretism people who once believed that the Bible was the foundation for all truth and their ethics were aligned to their obedience and submission to it, now, are adhering to other ethical ideologies. Ethics attempts to describe moral action and even investigates the why (2013). Growing up in the Christian faith, I was taught about Jesus. Jesus Christ transformed my life and the Bible because the foundation of my faith. Today, as more people fall away from faith in God and the Bible, the question of why adhere to any ethic theory is quite relevant. Meta-ethics asks the question of whether morality is objective (2013). Moral subjectivism connotes that morality is built on moral preferences, opinions, and attitudes. Moral realists believe that moral judgements can be true or false and are made so by objective features of the world (2013). While

philosophers, scholars and thinkers may dialogue about the subjectivity or objectivity of ethics, John Deigh uttered words that can be seen every night on the news, “A man without ethics is like a wild beast loosed upon this world.” (2013).

Works Cited

Academy of Ideas. (2013, August 9). Introduction to ethics.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3_t4obUc51A [Time = 10:07]

Abumere, F., Giles, D, et.al. (2020). Introduction to philosophy: Ethics. Creative Commons.

Notomi, N. (2022). Socrates and the Sophists: Reconsidering the History of Criticisms of the Sophists. *Humanities*, 11(6), 153.

Singer, P. (n.d.). Ethics. Encyclopedia Britannica. [Ethics]

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/ethics-philosophy>.