

Study Questions for the First Midterm Examination

Please note:

Some of the questions on the midterm will be taken from the following list, while others will not. These questions should help you in two ways: first, they should give you an idea of the kinds of questions that will be asked on the midterm, and, second, if you have mastered the material necessary to answer these questions and questions like them, then you should be in a great position to answer the questions that actually appear on the midterm. Also, please note that the number of questions below does not match the number that will actually appear on the exam. For example, you will have 1 or 2 essay questions on the exam.

BEST OF LUCK!

I. Multiple Choice: Please choose a single correct answer for each question below.

- (1) According to which of the following is the human fetus one week after conception a moral person?
 - a. The gradualist potentiality view
 - b. The species criterion
 - c. The actual possession criterion
 - d. All of the above
 - e. None of the above

- (2) According to Marquis,
 - a. Abortion is permissible in the first trimester of pregnancy.
 - b. Abortion is wrong because it is an assault on the dignity of human life.
 - c. Active voluntary euthanasia can be morally permissible.
 - d. All of the above
 - e. None of the above

- (3) Jaworska would accept which of the following?
 - a. Advance directives should have authority in both dementia and coma cases.
 - b. The ability to value is independent of the ability to understand the narrative of one's whole life.
 - c. Although patients such as Mrs. D can generate critical interests, they are not capable of any sort of autonomous choice.
 - d. All of the above
 - e. None of the above

- (4) Which of the following do Lemmens and Elliot recommend as a model for the payment of healthy research subjects?
- a. A labor contract
 - b. A donation to a charity
 - c. An exchange of services between doctor and patient
 - d. All of the above
 - e. None of the above

II. Short Answer Answer the following questions in one or two sentences each.

- (1) What are the characteristics of a common-sense person, according to Feinberg?
- (2) What is the Personal Identity Problem for advance directives?
- (3) What are the moral principles set out by the Belmont Report?
- (4) What is Consequentialism?
- (5) What is the integrity view of autonomy, according to Dworkin?
- (6) What is the Necessity Requirement, according to Wendler?

III. Medium Answer: Answer in one paragraph.

- (1) At certain points in their work, Dworkin and Jaworska both consider the thesis that what is good for a person is determined entirely by his or her values. Using an example, provide an argument against this thesis.
- (2) Set out the Strict Potentiality Criterion and Feinberg's response to it.
- (3) On the assumption that the fetus is a moral person, what does Thomson say about the moral permissibility of abortion in the case of birth control failure?
- (4) McMahan suggests that an individual's time-relative interests can come into conflict. Explain his reasons for thinking this, and why in the case of a dementia patient, one set should take precedence over the other.

IV. Essay: Answer each of the following as clearly, completely, and carefully as you can.

- (1) Adjudicate the debate between those who believe that we ought to respect advance directives in the middle and later stages of dementia and those who disagree. Be sure to consider the reasoning given in support of each side, as well as the best possible objections and replies that might be given. Your answer should include a discussion of Dworkin and at least two of Dresser, Jaworska, and McMahan.

- (2) Briefly describe the key features of Jaworska's case of Mr. O'Conner. Then explain how two of our authors would approach the question of whether to follow his current wish to be allowed to die. Evaluate each position you discuss as fully as you can, and be sure to say which one you find more convincing.

- (3) Set out the combination of the Actual C-Possession Criterion for moral personhood and the gradualist C-Possession addendum. Explain its strengths, and consider objections to it. Is it convincing? Defend your answer.

- (4) Under what circumstances, if any, is an abortion morally permissible? Explain and defend your answer, being sure to consider and respond to the best objections to your view. Your answer should include a discussion of at least two of the authors we discussed in the course.

- (5) Describe the basic features of the study described by Tannsjo. Set out the best case for the conclusion that the study should continue unmodified and the best case for the conclusion that it should be modified. Adjudicate.