

Paper Topics

- When are we obligated to make sacrifices to help others? When, and to what extent, are people obligated to give to charity?
- When is it wrong to be part of a group that together causes harm?
- When is it wrong to be friends with a person?
- To what extent should we be lenient with our friends / loved ones?
- To what extent should people feel grief; is it wrong to recover easily from grief?

Week by Week Breakdown

1. Srinivasan (anger, aptness, emotions and “real” knowledge)
2. Sinnott-Armstrong & Vance (collective action problems)
3. Isserow (friendship)
4. Thomson (valuing life, sacrifice)
5. Smith (helping/charity, demandingness)
6. Liao (inducing love)
7. Cassidy (parenting)
8. Hardwig, Miller (duty to die)
9. Woelke, Harris (consent, end of life decisions)

Instructions

Your group will be assigned one of the Paper Topics.

Start by writing down any core things that someone writing on this topic should know when writing for *this audience* (the audience being your classmates):

- Is there anything that the class generally agreed on about the topic? If so, what?
 - E.g. important, generally agreed on examples.
 - Did people generally agree that “often/generally/sometimes, such and such is wrong,” even if they didn’t think it was always wrong?
- Were there important conditionals that the class rejected? If so, what were they and why did the class reject them (e.g. counterexamples)?
- Were there key disagreements or controversies? If so, what was the disagreement about and why did people disagree?

Next, go through the Week by Week Breakdown, in order. Answer the following questions:

- For each week, is there anything covered in that week that is importantly relevant to your topic?
 - E.g. when we talked about Cassidy, we discussed how not everything that increases welfare is permissible. This is relevant to, e.g., collective action, anger, resilience, resilience, and maybe other topics as well (for each, some people think that the right choice is not always the one that increases welfare).
- What, if anything, would the author(s) we read that week have to say about your topic? Why would they say that?
 - Note: some authors may have nothing to say about some topics.
 - However, authors may have something to say about a topic even if they did not write explicitly about it.
 - E.g. Thomson might have opinions on when anger is appropriate.

Write this all up. Your group’s work will be used by the class as a review sheet for the final paper.