

Applying Ethical Frameworks to a Dilemma

Format: Double spaced, 12 point Times-Roman. See the course syllabus for required headers.

Assignment

Read the attached scenario (ethical_dilemma.pdf), then answer the following questions. Answer in well written, complete paragraphs (in other words, not a series of fragments or bullet points).

1. What would an act-utilitarian analysis suggest you do? Why?
2. What would a rule-utilitarian analysis suggest you do? Why? (For both 1 and 2, be sure to identify who the stakeholders are and what impact the suggested action would have on them and their 'happyness'.)
3. What would a Kantianism / deontological analysis suggest you do? Why?
4. What would a divine command theory analysis suggest you do? Why? (Specify which divine command(s) you are using.)
5. What would a rights based contract analysis suggest you do? Why? Be sure to distinguish between negative and positive rights.
6. Combine these different perspectives and provide a well-reasoned argument for the course of action that YOU would take in this situation.

Grading criteria

- Completeness
- Writing
- Insight into each ethical theory
- Your personal ethical analysis (you are not graded on the conclusion you make, but on a reasoned discussion of why you reach that conclusion)