The First Paper Topics  
PHIL 222W: Medical Ethics  
Spring 2008

Topics

Choose one topic from the five following:

1. Is physician-assisted suicide ever morally permissible? Should the rest of the country follow Oregon’s example, or should PAS remain illegal in the U.S.? Discuss this issue from perspectives of physician and patient, respectively.

2. The concept of autonomy has come to play an important role in our moral judgment. Is it something that people are obligated to exercise rather than merely permitted or encouraged to use? Critically discuss it.

3. Critically compare the two competing views, ‘pro-life’ and ‘pro-choice’ and show problems embedded in each stance.

4. Lee and George in their “The Wrong of Abortion” urge us to see that human embryos and fetuses are complete (though immature) human beings. What do they mean? Do you agree on their view?

5. Emergency Contraception (know as RU-486 and/or Plan B) blurs the line between contraception and abortion. A majority of Americans have no objections either to contraception or to early abortion. Critically discuss this issue and your view.

Guideline for Submission

Due **Thursday, February 21, 2008.**

You are expected to choose one topic from the five listed above, and bring three copies of your draft (and three copies of **Peer-Review** on the D2L course site) to the class on Thursday, February 21.

Your paper needs to be (1) 3-4 page long, (2) double-spaced, (3) 12 font, (4) 1” margin on all sides, (5) paginated, (6) no cover sheet (i.e. Title and name on page 1), and (7) no typos or grammatical mistakes.

Please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy on the syllabus, and read “**Plagiarism: what it is and how to avoid it**” on the D2L course site.

The draft of your paper along with three peer-evaluations will constitute 5% of your final grade.