

One-Anothering: A Christian Approach to Professional Ethics

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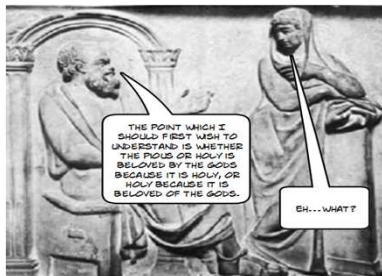
Meta-Ethics

► Philosophical Ethics

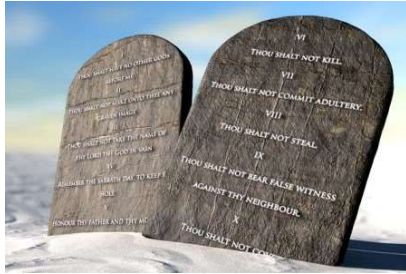
- **Emotivism** - Ethics are whatever feels good
- **Cognitivism** - Ethics are ideas that are either wrong or right
 - **Relativism** - Ethics are dependent on what you believe (ethics = opinions)
 - **Universalism** - Ethics are independent of what you believe (ethics = universal truths)



Euthyphro Dilemma



Divine Command Theory



The Akedah of Isaac



Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you."

- Genesis 22:2



New Testament Explanation

"By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, 'In Isaac your seed shall be called,' concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense."

- Hebrews 11:17-19



Informal Fallacy

- ▶ A Hasty Generalization occurs when we make a general rule based on a few cases.
 - ▶ Yes, God commanded Abraham to sacrifice his son (Gen. 22)
 - ▶ Yes, God told the Israelites to steal from their Egyptian neighbors (Ex. 11:2 & 12:36)
 - ▶ Yes, God told the Israelites to slaughter the Amalekites, every man, woman, child, or infant (1 Sam. 15)
 - ▶ Does this mean that Christians should engage in murder, stealing, and genocide?



Gideon's Fleece



Then Gideon said to God, "Do not be angry with me. Let me make just one more request. Allow me one more test with the fleece, but this time make the fleece dry and let the ground be covered with dew."
- Judges 6:39



Magic 8-Ball Approach



"If a thought or impulse pops into your head, even if it happens while reading Scripture, don't assume it is a voice from heaven"
- DeYoung, 2009, p. 84



Christian Nationalism



Unholy Trinity?

Wednesday January 6 was the Feast of Epiphany, when Christians celebrate how the light of Christ spreads to all nations. But what a strange Epiphany we had in the United States. Instead of Magi worshipping a newborn king, MAGA hats descended on our nation's capital. But if the nations were watching recent events in DC—as people destabilized democracy while carrying flags that read “Make America Godly Again”—would any onlooker want anything to do with this Christ?

- Christianity Today



Natural Law Ethics

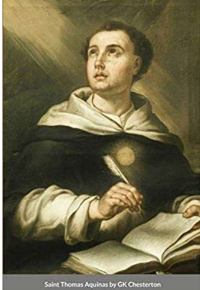


So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

- Genesis 1:27



St. Thomas Aquinas



Saint Thomas Aquinas by GK Christian

If a humanly made law conflicts with the natural law, then it is no longer a law, but a corruption of law.


- *Summa theologiae*, I-II, Q. 95, a. 2.



Two Types of Reason

Sophia =
Theoretical wisdom


Phronesis =
Practical wisdom



Reformed Theology


“All humankind reflects the image of God (*imago dei*) and this image, while blemished by sin, is neither lost nor destroyed” (*Institutes*, 1:15:4)

But man is so shrouded in the darkness of errors that he hardly begins to grasp through this natural law what worship is acceptable to God. Surely, he is far removed from a true estimate of it (*Institutes*, 2:8:1)



UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights

“All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards *one another* in a spirit of brotherhood” (Article 1, emphasis added).



Declaration Toward a Global Ethic



October 16 - 18

There is a principle which is found and has persisted in many religious and ethical traditions of humankind for thousands of years: What you do not wish done to yourself, do not do to others. Or in positive terms: What you wish done to yourself, do to others!



The Yale Baby Lab

► [The Baby Lab](#)



A New Commandment



I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

- John 13:34-35



Common Ethical Values in Mental Health

Truthfulness and Full Disclosure	Human Relationships
Dignity and Worth of the Person	Least Harm
Privacy and Confidentiality	Fidelity and Integrity
Social Justice	Quality of Life
Protection of Life	Competence
Beneficence and Service	Autonomy/Freedom
Equal Treatment	



Christian Coercion #1



Neil Noesen, 30, a relief pharmacist at the Kmart in a small town in Wisconsin, was the only person on duty one day in 2002 when a University of Wisconsin student came in to refill her prescription for the contraceptive Loestrin FE. According to the Wisconsin department of regulation and licensing, Noesen refused to fill the doctor-approved prescription because of his religious opposition to birth control. He also declined to transfer the prescription to a nearby pharmacy and refused once again when the student returned to the store with police.



Christian Coercion #2



Jennifer Keeton, former student in Augusta State's graduate counseling program insisted on a right - rooted in her Christian beliefs - to counsel lesbian, gay and bisexual clients that being gay is immoral. If she could not get gay clients to abandon their "lifestyle," she would refer them for conversion therapy. She alleged that the university had violated her First Amendment right to the free exercise of her religion when it insisted on ethical remediation.



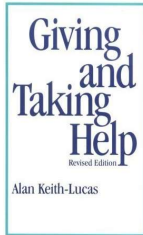
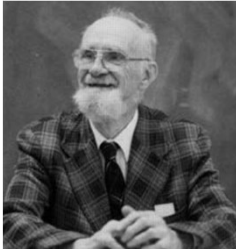
Christian Coercion #3



Social work student, Jacqueline Escobar's persistent proselytizing of her co-workers at her DCFS internship caused her colleagues to distance themselves and avoid engaging in a constructive working relationship with her. Her tenacious testimony caused her to run afoul of NASW Code of Ethics §4.03 "Social workers should not permit their private conduct to interfere with their professional responsibilities."



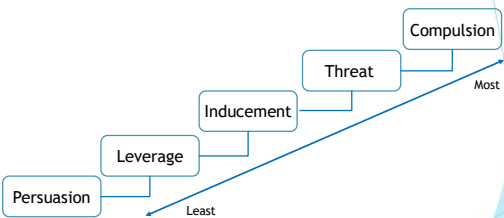
AKL Admonition



"helping people find their own way is better than controlling them, however subtly."

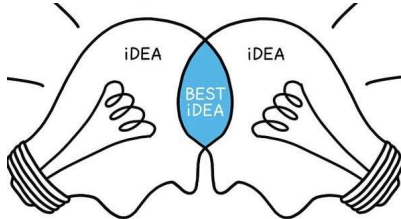


Hierarchy of Influence

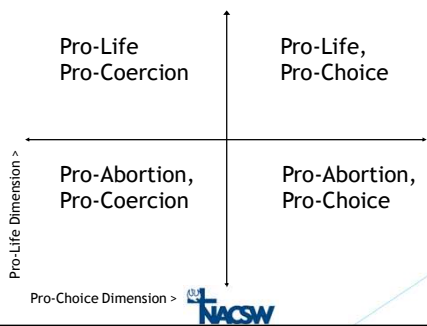


Christian Consultation

▶ “He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt:” Luke 18:9-14



Pro-Choice, Pro-Life Typology



Caveat: Complementary Sources