

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

M. PHIL. EXAMINATION 1999 for Internal Students

PHILOSOPHY

Monday, 10 May. 10.00 - 1.00.

Ethics

Answer THREE questions.

1. 'It is irrational to accept a deontological constraint C, rather than a view that prescribes minimizing the violations of C.' Discuss.

2. Is one morally responsible for what one has done only if one could have done otherwise?

3. 'If one can save either a large or a small group from harm, one should not automatically save the large group. Rather, one should flip a coin to determine which group to save.' Discuss.

4. EITHER (a) Is it possible, through no fault of one's own, to stumble into a dilemma in which, no matter what one does, one will have done wrong?

OR (b) Is there such a thing as moral luck?

5. 'One is no more responsible for what one does than for what one allows to happen.' Discuss.

6. What is internalism in the theory of motivation? Is it true?

7. What, in general, is a virtue? What role should moral virtues play in ethical theory?

8. Can reflection destroy moral knowledge?

9. Are values analogous to secondary qualities in any way that supports an interesting form of moral realism?

10. What is the most plausible form of moral expressivism? What are the principal objections to it?

11. Suppose science establishes that normal humans have a genetic predisposition to altruism. What relevance, if any, would this finding have for ethical theory?

END OF PAPER