

The Moral Event

Element	Agent	Act	Circumstance	Outcome
Ethical Theory	Virtues (Virtue Ethics)	Principles (Deontology)	Particularizing Theories (Narrative Ethics)	Consequences (Teleology)
Foci	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Character • Intention • Desire • Choice • Will • Accountability • Caring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right • Good • Duty • Rule • Maxim 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caring for this person or group in this place, time, etc. • Narrative, culture, uniqueness of the person • Experience • “Situation” ethics • Casuistry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes • Harms/good • Pain/pleasure • Utility • Calculus

Moral Frameworks

Ethical Theory	Virtues (Virtue Ethics)	Principles (Deontology)	Circumstances (Narrative Ethics)	Consequences (Teleology)
Guiding Thought	Who we should be	What we ought to do	What is going on	The end justifies the means
Am I ethical?	Degree of adherence to virtue	Conforming to a moral norm or rule	It depends...	Action(s) results in best outcome
Strengths	Motivates moral development; holistic	Shared moral intuitions; focus on action	Avoids impartial distance; focus on motivating particularities	Focus on outcomes and results
Critiques	Relative, unfocused, egoistic	Balance of principles, outcomes ignored	Too contextual, many approaches	Inability to predict all outcomes, methods to outcome ignored

The Four Questions

- When confronted with a moral dilemma/event, ask yourself...
 1. What is/are the ethical question(s)?
 2. What are the relevant facts?
 3. Who or what could be affected by the way the question gets resolved?
 4. What are the relevant ethical considerations?