

APPLYING MY ETHICAL THEORY

Student's Name

Subject

Date

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My devised approach to metaethics is between Duty ethics and Virtue ethics. Duty ethics is about unconditional morality, which applies to all people everywhere. Virtue ethics has a common goal, fulfilling an individual purpose and becoming virtuous people. Both ethics derive from moral standards. The actual issue I am going to apply to my ethical theory is poverty. From my perspective, people have a moral obligation and duty to help the less fortunate. The focus of virtue ethics in people's character to cultivate and make us virtuous people. For example, homelessness is a problem to many people due to some reasons like unemployment, domestic violence, mental health issues, and substance abuse or addiction.¹[1] In such a case, we should not focus on the cause or reason; we should offer help to the homeless.

According to the National Coalition for the Homeless, about 25% of the homeless people in the urban areas have jobs, though their earnings cannot afford housing. Veterans are about 20% of the population, and the largest population (about 55%) has mental health issues.²[2] Moreover, a study on homeless people shows that about 33 to 67% of the population suffer from addiction disorders.³[3] Several organizations and programs have come up to contribute and assist the people in need. The homeless people are also among the needy people; therefore, it is our duty to help the homeless people we come across in the streets and other urban environs.

Over the last three decades, the rate of poverty increased due to eroding benefits and wages. Moreover, public assistance has declined, and at the same time, affordable housing

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(specifically rental housing) has decreased. Virtues are traits that incline people to act and react morally. The holy books, like the Bible, talks about virtues. For example, the Bible teaches Christians to help one another when in need (or the ones in need), the ones in need. In other words, the Bible teaches Christians to be kind and helpful to individuals.⁴[4] When a person helps the less fortunate people in society, it means the person is taking care of moral obligations as well as fulfilling her duty of being a virtuous person.

According to the Bible, "For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore, I command you, 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and the poor, in your land'.⁵[5] The verse confirms that poverty will always be there, the same to homelessness and other challenges. Therefore, the lack of affordable housing and poverty are the main reasons for homelessness, solutions should be implemented to address policy, and low-income rental houses should be provided to reduce homelessness.⁶[6] The categorical imperative of Kant (which he refers to as "practical imperative") states that "Act in such a way that you treat humanity, whether in your person or the person of another, always at the same time as an end and never simply as a means". Thus as we work hard to achieve our goal, we should remember to help those in need as it is our moral obligations and what also the Bible teaches us: "It is more blessed to give than to receive".⁷

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⁶[6]

Deuteronomy 15:11 (English Standard Version)

William Simkulet. 2015. "Review: Christian Ethics: A Case Method Approach (4th Edition)". *Solidarity: The Journal of Catholic Social Thought and Secular Ethics*. 5, no. 1.

Glynn, Chris, and Emily B. Fox. 2019. "Dynamics of Homelessness in Urban America". <https://Projecteuclid.Org/Euclid.Aoas/1554861661Ann>. *Appl. Stat.* 13, no. 1: 573-605.

[1] Glynn, Chris, and Emily B. Fox. 2019. "Dynamics of Homelessness in Urban America".

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[2] Glynn, Chris, and Emily B. Fox. 2019. "Dynamics of Homelessness in Urban America".

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[3] Glynn, Chris, and Emily B. Fox. 2019. "Dynamics of Homelessness in Urban America". <https://Projecteuclid.Org/Euclid.Aoas/1554861661Ann>. *Appl. Stat.* 13, no. 1: 573-05.

[4] William Simkulet. 2015. "Review: Christian Ethics: A Case Method Approach (4th

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[5] Deuteronomy 15:11 (English Standard Version)

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Acts 20:35 (English Standard Version)

[6] Glynn, Chris, and Emily B. Fox. 2019. "Dynamics of Homelessness in Urban America".

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