## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preface</td>
<td>xv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgments</td>
<td>xvii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source Acknowledgments</td>
<td>xviii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Part I Introduction: Values</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Fiction:</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Too Much.” A young teacher and mother is</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>thinking about her life as she sorts through</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the mailings from the opposing causes</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>supported by her parents and in-laws</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Discussion:</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Too Much”</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Values</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some distinctions</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Happiness as the ultimate personal value</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Happiness research</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other personal values</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moral Values</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moral values/issues in the story</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What are moral values</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biased moral reasoning</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes and selected sources</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Definitions</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questions</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Readings:</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claudia Wallis writes about the “new science</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of happiness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Nozick discusses his case of the</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“experience machine”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan Glover discusses the dual values</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of happiness and flourishing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick Grim asks what makes a life good,</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>distinguishing between “lives to envy” and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“lives to admire”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louis P. Pojman, Richard Joyce and Shaun</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nichols give their views on what morality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>is</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan Haidt discusses biases in our</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>moral reasoning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Part II  Moral Theory

4  Fiction:
   “Long Live the King.” A fable about townspeople wondering how they should live
   when messages from the King become confusing, even contradictory 47
   Questions 50

5  Discussion:
   “Long Live the King” 51
   Religious ethics 52
   God and the good 52
   The God perspective 55
   Utilitarianism and rights 56
   Utilitarianism 56
   A first look at rights 58
   The idealized human perspective 59
   Aristotle and virtue ethics 59
   Kant and universalizability 61
   Rawls and the ideal agent 63
   The unidealized human perspective 65
   Evolutionary ethics 65
   Basic social contract theory 67
   Moral libertarianism 69
   Notes and selected sources 70
   Definitions 71
   Questions 73
   Appendix: moral relativism 74
   What’s supposed to be relative? 74
   Cultural relativism 77
   Individual relativism/moral subjectivism 78
   Notes and selected sources 80
   Definitions 81
   Questions 81

6  Readings:
   Jeremy Bentham presents a classic statement of the principle of utility 82
   John Stuart Mill argues that there are higher and lower forms of happiness 84
   Peter Singer discusses what ethics is and offers a justification for a
   utilitarian ethic 86
   Immanuel Kant argues that ethics is based on “the categorical imperative” 89
   John Rawls argues that from an original position of equality we would reject
   utilitarianism in favor of his two principles of justice 93
   Robert Nozick discusses the moral principles behind his political
   libertarianism 96
   Jeremy Waldron discusses the concept of human rights and gives an argument for
   “welfare rights” 100
   Aristotle analyzes happiness as a life lived according to virtue 103
   Jonathan Haidt discusses virtue ethics in the context of positive psychology 106
Jean Grimshaw discusses the idea of a female ethic, reviewing some contemporary writers on the subject 109
Simon Blackburn warns against confusions we should avoid if we read popular literature on ethics and evolution 112
George Lakoff describes two forms of Christianity that parallel two different models of the family 113
James Rachels discusses “the challenge of cultural relativism” 114

Part III  Morality and Politics 119

7 Fiction:
“The Divided States of America.” In the middle of the tumultuous twenty-first century, the United States has split into four separate districts based on liberalism, conservatism, libertarianism and socialism 121
Questions 129

8 Discussion:
“The Divided States of America” 130
Preliminary issues 131
  Morality and free markets 131
  Democracy 132
  Religion in the public square 133
Four political philosophies 134
  Libertarianism 136
  Conservatism 139
  Liberalism 141
  Socialism 143
Notes and selected sources 145
Definitions 146
Questions 148

9 Readings:
Jerry Z. Muller defines capitalism and talks about some of the tensions between capitalism and democracy 149
Fareed Zakaria analyzes the two strands of “liberal democracy”—democracy and constitutional liberalism 152
Noah Feldman discusses the origins of the Free Exercise and Establishment Clauses of the First Amendment 154
John Hospers discusses libertarianism 159
Patrick N. Allitt discusses conservatism 163
Paul Starr discusses liberalism 166
Peter Self discusses socialism 169

Part IV  World Poverty 173

10 Fiction:
“The River.” A man, living alone in a jungle outpost, is confronted by an increasing number of refugees appearing on the opposite bank of a turbulent river, refugees who will starve unless he ferries them across 175
Questions 181
11 Discussion:  182

“The River”  182

Facts and factual issues  183

World poverty: basic facts  183
Financial aid and economic growth  185
Food aid and the “Green Revolution”  186
Trying to find out what works  187
What, if anything, can individuals do to help?  189

Peter Singer: we owe much to the world’s poor  190

Singer’s Shallow Pond argument  190
Sympathetic critiques and alternate proposals  193
Libertarians: we owe nothing to the world’s poor  196
Arguments of libertarians and social contract theorists  196
Pogge: obligations even on libertarian principles  197

Religion and aiding the poor  198
Notes and selected sources  201
Definitions  202
Questions  203

12 Readings:  204

Nicholas D. Kristof discusses the failures and successes of foreign aid  204
Abhijit V. Banerjee and Esther Duflo discuss the debate on world poverty and  206
the need for controlled trials to see what interventions work

Peter Singer argues that to live a morally decent life, the well-off would have to give  211
most of what they have to the world’s poor
Kwame Anthony Appiah argues that we do not owe so much to strangers  214
as Singer claims
Jan Narveson, a Libertarian, argues that feeding the hungry is not an obligation  216
Thomas Pogge argues that even on libertarian principles the West has some responsibility  219
for alleviating world poverty
Jim Wallis talks about biblical injunctions to help the poor  223

Part V  Abortion  227

13 Fiction:  229

“The Blessing of the Blastocysts.” A future disaster leads to the gestation  229
of all human fetuses outside the womb

Questions  235

14 Discussion:  236

“The Blessing of the Blastocysts”  236

Facts and factual issues  237

Abortion: definition and statistics  237
Abortion methods  237
Development of the embryo/fetus  238
Legal status of abortion  239
Religious positions  240
Public opinion  241
The complexity of the abortion issue
  A range of positions 241
  The moral versus the legal 242
  Practical means to reducing abortion 244
  Two central moral issues 244
The moral status of the fetus 245
  Fetal development and moral status 245
  Pro-life arguments re fetal status 248
  Pro-choice arguments re fetal status 249
  Moderate-position arguments re fetal status 249
Conflicting claims of the mother versus the fetus 251
Summary 253
Notes and selected sources 254
Definitions 255
Questions 256

Readings: 257
Roger A. Paynter discusses different interpretations of what the Bible has to say about abortion 257
John T. Noonan, Jr. argues that abortion is morally wrong 259
Mary Ann Warren argues that fetuses don’t qualify as persons with a right to life 262
Gregg Easterbrook argues that third-trimester abortions—but those only—should be tightly restricted 266
Judith Jarvis Thomson argues that even if it were granted that the fetus is a person, many abortions can still be justified in terms of the rights of the mother 267
Joel Feinberg and Barbara Baum Levenbook consider the claim that even if the fetus is a person, the interests of the mother justify abortion in many cases 272
Jane English thinks a moderate position on abortion can be justified, whether or not the fetus is conceived as a person 275

Part VI Animals 279

Fiction: 281
“The Trainers.” An alien race has saved and nurtured a remnant of humanity that survived a nuclear holocaust. The humans are now thriving on a South Sea island. But, as the alien narrator says, “salvation always comes at a price” 281
Questions 285

Discussion: 286
“The Trainers” 286
Facts and factual issues 288
Research animals 288
Factory farming 290
Three moral views regarding our use of animals 292
Animal minds 293
Pro-Status Quo views 295
Animal Welfare views 297
Abolitionist views 298
The Speciesist Critique 298
Singer and utilitarianism 301
Regan and animal rights 302
Notes and selected sources 303
Definitions 304
Questions 305

18 Readings:
David DeGrazia presents the case for animals feeling pain 306
Robert Nozick asks what moral constraints there are, if any, on the behavior of humans toward animals 311
Peter Singer argues that all creatures who are capable of suffering are entitled to equal concern 313
Tom Regan argues the case for animal rights 318
Carl Cohen defends the use of animals in medical research 323
Matthew Scully pleads for animal welfare, speaking particularly to fellow conservatives and Christians 327

Part VII The Environment 329

19 Fiction:
“Museum for a Dying Planet.” The inhabitants of a planet dying from ecological disasters built a self-sustaining habitat/museum so that future visitors would be able to appreciate the beauty that once was their home 331
Questions 335

20 Discussion:
“Museum for a Dying Planet” 336
Facts and factual issues 337
Environmental problems 337
A history of environmental issues in the US 337
Global warming 339
Environmental decision-making 340
The assessment of risk 340
Present versus future people 341
Environmental justice 341
Cost–benefit analysis 342
What has inherent moral worth?
Humans? Animals? The natural world? 343
Humans (only) 344
Sentient creatures (only) 344
Living things (only) 345
Natural things (only) 347
Natural systems 347
Notes and selected sources 348
Definitions 350
Questions 351
Readings:

Edmund O. Wilson describes environmental problems and presents two opposing views as to how they should be approached

Gabrielle Walker and Sir David King present a mitigationist view re global warming

Bjorn Lomborg presents an adaptationist case re global warming

Timothy Taylor discusses the problem of how to discount the future, especially in the case of low-probability, high-risk events

William Baxter argues for an anthropocentric view of the environment

Richard Routley argues against an anthropocentric view of the environment

Paul Taylor argues that all living things can be said to have a “good of their own” and are worthy of respect and moral consideration

J. Baird Callicott discusses the land ethic of Aldo Leopold

Timothy Taylor discusses the problem of how to discount the future, especially in the case of low-probability, high-risk events

William Baxter argues for an anthropocentric view of the environment

Richard Routley argues against an anthropocentric view of the environment

Paul Taylor argues that all living things can be said to have a “good of their own” and are worthy of respect and moral consideration

J. Baird Callicott discusses the land ethic of Aldo Leopold

Bill Devall and George Sessions discuss “deep ecology”

Part VIII Genetics

Fiction:

“People of the Underground.” After a failed rebellion against the “Clenes” (a genetically enhanced part of the human race), the “People” survive in the Caves, claiming to preserve “true humanity”

Questions

Discussion:

“In People of the Underground”

Facts and factual issues

- In vitro fertilization
- Pre-implantation genetic diagnosis (PGD)
- Human genetic engineering (HGE)

The case against human genetic engineering

1. HGE would be too dangerous
2. HGE/PGD would be “playing God”
3. HGE/PGD wouldn’t be limited to curing disease
4. HGE would lead to a “genetic arms race”
5. HGE could undermine religion and ethics
6. HGE could lead to totalitarianism
7. HGE could lead to Nazi-like eugenics
8. HGE could undermine human equality
9. HGE could undermine human freedom

The case for human genetic engineering

Reply to Objection 1
Reply to Objection 2
Reply to Objection 3
Reply to Objection 4
Reply to Objection 5
Reply to Objection 6
Reply to Objection 7
Reply to Objection 8
Reply to Objection 9
Concluding remarks  398
Notes and selected sources  399
Definitions  400
Questions  401

24  Readings:
Ronald M. Green discusses some of the fears of genetic enhancement displayed in literature
and argues that these fears may simply reflect “status quo bias”  402
Gregory Stock discusses the possibility of “redesigning humans” and argues it will likely happen 405
Jonathan Glover discusses a “genetic supermarket,” positive versus negative
genetic engineering and whether human nature should be sacrosanct  408
Francis Fukuyama warns against genetics leading us into a “post-human”
future. He thinks genetic engineering should be limited to curing disease and outlines
the regulatory changes the US would need to make to accomplish this  412
Bill McKibben argues that human genetic engineering will end up limiting
human freedom and that it’s our responsibility—not that of geneticists, doctors
and bioethicists—to decide its future course  416
The President’s Council on bioethics gives its analysis of some of the ethical
issues regarding future use of PGD  420