

Instructions: Write name legibly. Explain so that smart people who have not taken our class will understand.

Consider the following thought experiment from Peter Singer. *“If I am walking past a shallow pond and see a child drowning in it, [then] I ought to wade in and pull the child out. This will mean getting my clothes muddy, but this is insignificant, while the death of the child would presumably be a very bad thing.”* (p. 467) **What is this thought experiment (and our judgment about it) supposed to teach us?**

Now explain what the following two remarks about this thought experiment are supposed to teach us:

1. *“the development of the world into a ‘global village’ has made an important, though still unrecognized, difference to our moral situation. Expert observers and supervisors ...can direct our aid to a refugee in Bengal almost as effectively as we could get it to someone in our own block.”* (p. 467).

2. *“Should I consider that I am less obliged to pull the drowning child out of the pond if on looking around I see other people, no further away than I am, who have also noticed the child but are doing nothing? [Answering, ‘yes’ would be] an ideal excuse for inactivity; unfortunately most of the major evils – poverty, overpopulation, pollution – are problems in which everyone is almost equally involved.”* (p. 468)

Complete Peter Singer’s argument that our reaction to global events cannot be morally justified (p. 467).

Suffering and death from lack of food, shelter, and medical care are _____.

If it is in our power to _____,

without thereby _____,

then we ought, morally, _____.

People are suffering and dying from lack of food, shelter, and medical care.

It is in our power to _____,

without thereby _____.

Therefore, we ought, morally to _____.

For each of the following, indicate whether the claim is true or false by circling/underlining/etc. one option.

True False *Peter Singer thinks that argument below this section is valid (p. 468).*

True False *Peter Singer thinks that argument below this section is sound (p. 468).*

True False *Singer says every teacher/student of philosophy should discuss famine, affluence, and morality.*

Complete this argument against idea that the number of others doesn't matter morally (p. 468).

If everyone in circumstances like mine sacrificed gave \$5, then _____

There is _____ reason why I should _____

Therefore, I _____

Explain what Peter Singer thinks is wrong with the argument against idea that the existence of others doesn't matter morally. (Hint: see 'hypothetical' on p. 468).

Identify the statements that appeal to intuition by checking their box.

- "Should I consider that I am less obliged to pull the drowning child out of the pond if on looking around I see other people, no further away than I am, who have also noticed the child but are doing nothing? One has only to ask this question to see the absurdity of the view that numbers lessen obligation." (p. 467)*
- Peter Singer thinks that we have a duty to donate as much time and money as we can to prevent suffering and death?! Sure that sounds nice, but we all know deep down that we're selfish! He's expecting too much.*
- We're responsible for ourselves and our family. That's just common sense. So, we don't owe anything to people on the other side of the earth. If they are in trouble, then their people should handle it—not us.*

Your fellow American, Sal Phisch humble brags on social media that they donated \$50 to Save the Poor, Innocent, Suffering, Children™. Iggy Norance tells you about it, saying "Sal is so generous! Last time I had \$50 to spare, I spent it on shoes." Explain why Peter Singer thinks that an American's giving \$50 to "charity" is not, in fact, a generous act of charity. (I.e., explain how and why Singer categorizes such giving.) (p. 469)