

CASE STUDY: FETAL ABNORMALITY

Pascal Uzobuife

Grand Canyon University

PHI-414

Ethical and Spiritual Decision Making in Health Care

Professor James Welch

August 29th 2021

Christians View of Human Persons and Relationship to a Moral Theory and Human

Dignity

According to Keze (2019), the Christian view of human life protects and preserves life.

Christians' moral view life as sacred and God sent, and therefore all humans are expected to work to protect human life. Human life is preserved. Efforts by an individual to take their own life are strongly condemned according to the church doctrine. The Christian view of human dignity is that all individuals are born with special and unique capabilities that need exploitation. The exploitation of the capabilities should, however, not infringe on the well-being of other persons (Alva, 2017).

The moral principle that is related to the Christian view of human life is the great ethics. Aristic ethics is also called virtue ethics theory. According to the virtue ethics theory, human virtue entails acting and perpetrating positive aspects in various human sectors of life. The perpetrating positive aspects are preserving human dignity (Alola, Henry, & Komar, 2020). The virtue ethics theory incorporates some elements of consequentialism that are in the Christian view of human life. Christians argue that humans are responsible for their actions. Wrong actions attract consequences. Consequentialism states that the judgment of an individual is based on the magnitude of the offense.

Theory or Theories Used by Jessica, Marco, Maria, and Dr. Wilson to Determine the Moral Status of the Fetus

Deontological ethics theory is present in the discussion amongst Jessica, Marco, Maria, and Dr. Wilson. The deontological theory is also termed the normative theory. The normative

CASE STUDY: FETAL ABNORMALITY

3

theory argues that the moral actions of an individual are guided by the relevant rules set by society. The normative theory is based on self-evaluation on the view that an effort is either wrong or bad. However, the different perspectives of the argument are based on the ideologies available in the community setup (Hooker & Kim, 2018). Jessica and Marco can terminate the pregnancy in the above context, but she fears the outcomes because of the guilt and living with a dependent child.

Dr. Wilson also bases his argument on the Utilitarianism theory. The utilitarianism theory argues that the final results are beneficial to all the implicated individuals (Semrau, 2010). The benefits of procuring an abortion are valuable because of the debilitating consequences expected. Aunt Maria can advise the couple to keep the child because all pregnancies are God-sent. On the other hand, Dr. Wilson suggests that continuing the pregnancy outweighs the risks based on the medical criteria. He thus, recommends the need for a therapeutic abortion. Dr. Wilson breaches confidentiality because he feels that there is a greater risk of caring for the pregnancy. The risks associated with the pregnancy are abortion, prematurity, preterm, intrauterine fetal demise.

How Theory Determines or Influences Each of their Recommendations for Action

The normative theory is a theory is evidenced in the four individuals based on the practices of life. The doctor is establishing his principle of normative on the hypothetical oath. Aunt Maria bases her principles on Christian doctrines, while Jessica and Marco base their idea on their view of life. Bakshi (2018) states that the hypothetical oath demands that the doctor act

Spelling mistake: Kede → vice

Spelling mistake: emite → mire

Spelling mistake: Arvic → Arvic

Spelling mistake: Alola → Alola

Spelling mistake: consequential → consequential

Spelling mistake: Consequental → Consequental

Web Content: <https://www.studymessiah.com/essay/>

Spelling mistake: Deontological → Deontological

Spelling mistake: deontologist → deontologist

Three successive sentences begin with: The

Passive voice: individual are guided by

Three successive sentences begin with: The

on the other hand ... On the other hand ... But

Spelling mistake: prematurity → prematurity

Web Content: <https://www.studymessiah.com/essay/>

in the patient's best interest. Therefore, Dr. Wilson is acting in this regard. Aunt Maria is fitting because she bases her argument on the Christian principle that human life is sacred and God-given.

CASE STUDY: FETAL ABNORMALITY

4

What theory do you agree with? How would that theory determine or influence the

Recommendation for Action?

I agree with the normative theory. The normative theory is ethical because it incorporates

the need for a unified decision. The decision arrived at by the normative theory provides the

participants with an opportunity to respect societal and human norms. This theory influences the

action that Jessica, Marco, Aunt Maria, and Dr. Wilson will take. The approach also provides an

opportunity for discussions amongst themselves. Discussions enable the generation of better

decisions. A better decision is readily acceptable, and almost no consequences arise from the

final unified decision. Influence in the normative theory is sometimes based on referencing;

Referencing ensures that past decisions about a similar issue are sorted and analyzed. The

analyzed decision forms the basis of the argument for arriving at an answer.

Further, this is an ancient theory that has received numerous modifications over time. It,

therefore, reduces the chances of redundancy and gives a better conclusion and analysis of a

practical situation. However, the theory should ensure that it does not affect the cognition of an

individual. Affected awareness means that the decision of a member is overruled because of the

lack of confidence. When the individual looks back on the decision, it may affect them

immensely (Tawhine, Tawhine & Yende, 2019).

CASE STUDY: FETAL ABNORMALITY

5

References

- Alvar, R. (2017). The Catholic Church's perspective of human dignity is the basis of dialogue with the secular world. *Stellenbosch Theological Journal*, 3(2), 221-241.
- Alzola, M., Hennig, A., & Romer, H. (2020). Thematic symposium editorial: Virtue ethics

Spelling checker: Yende — End

Spelling checker: Tawhine — Tabular

Spelling checker: Tawhine — Tabular

Web Content: <https://www.scribbr.com/help/faq/whats-new/>

- between East and West. *Journal of Business Ethics*, 165(2), 177-189.
- Bakshi, A. S. (2018). *Hippocratic Oath or Hypocrisy?: Doctors at the Crossroads*. Sage Publications Pvt. Limited.
- Hooker, J. N., & Kim, T. W. N. (2018). Toward non-intuition-based machine and artificial intelligence ethics: A deontological approach based on modal logic. *Proceedings of the 2018 AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society*, pp. 130-136.
- Kotze, M. (2019). A life with limits: A Christian ethical investigation of radically prolonging human lifespans. *Studies in Christian Ethics*, 32(1), 56-65.
- Semrau, L. (2020). Christopher Woodard: Taking Utilitarianism Seriously. (<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10790-020-09742-5>).
- Tawalare, K., Tawalare, K., & Yende, M. (2019). Charaka's normative theories of ethics insight from Ayurveda. *Journal of Education Technology in Health Sciences*, 6(3), 59-61.