

Human Rights, Ethics and Social Justice
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Humanities 414
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1. How do Ethics, Rights and Justice Relate? The Example of Rawls' *A Theory of Justice*

- A. The Original Position and the Veil of Ignorance
 - a. The "Priority of the Right to the Good" and Foundational Thought
 - b. The "Two Principles of Justice"
- B. Who or What is Contracting?
- C. What to Make of the Isolated Rational Moral Person?

2. Relying on Rights, the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the U.S "Rights Revolution"

- A. What Types of Rights are in the *Declaration*?
 - a. Are all Rights Cultural Universals?
 - b. Are they Really Rights at All?
 - c. "Generations" of Rights
- B. The U.S, Rights Revolution
- C. Can We Separate the Ethical and Social Justice Issues from the "Rights Rhetoric"?

3. The Implications of Rights as a Foundational Social Vocabulary

- A. Dworkin and "Rights as Trumps"
 - a. The "Antimajoritarian" Quality of Rights
 - b. Rights as Principle
- B. Glendon and the Impoverishment of Moral Discourse

4. Visualizing and Embodying the Issue of Rights

- A. Agosin and Sontag - Visuality, Atrocity and Legality
 - B. The Disembodied Legal Mind
 - C. The "Availability Heuristic" and Our Conception of Rights

5. A "Post-Rights" Era for Social Justice? The Feasibility of Alternate Conceptions of Social Organization and Political Justice

- A. Nussbaum, Sen and Human Welfare
- B. Bottom-Up Networking and Social Pluralism