

Technology and the Future of Ethics

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Abstract:

- Technology is the whip that drives changes in: Morality, Law, and Political Theory.
- As the technology changes, our concept of the morality of situations must change.
- Technological progress moves us to ever higher states of morality.
- We will review advances in technology and their impact on the morality of society.
- We will discuss how technological advancements may change the landscape of traditional debates in such hot contested areas as abortion.
- Traditional ethical theories of Utilitarianism, Deontology, Rights, Justice, etc. will get dimmed and blurred by the light of technology. We will show how proper ethical decision making tools will enable us to weave our way through this mine field and not get blinded.
- We will discuss how we must stay ahead of the technology game by reserving a certain percentage of our technology R&D budgets for analyzing the effects of technology on society.

Everyday Ethics

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Abstract:

- We will look at how we make ethical choices in our everyday lives.
- We will look at a variety of everyday ethical dilemmas such as, organ donation / transplants, medical care of elderly, availability of medical services to all, environmental issues, business practices, contracts, etc. We will then discuss methods that one may use to analyze these dilemmas and arrive at a proper ethical decision.
- We will discuss Utilitarianism, Rights, Justice and Virtue as possible approaches to arriving at a proper ethical decision.
- We will then discuss why we have laws.