

Evaluating Surrogate Motherhood from Act Utilitarianism Point of View

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Abstract

Introduction: Surrogate motherhood's moral justification entirely depends on the ethical theory, which is taken from the normative ethics. Deontologists do believe that surrogate motherhood is morally impermissible in the light of Kantian notion of human dignity. In contrast, consequentialists focus on the pleasure and the pain of an action in order to arrive at its badness or goodness, morally speaking.

Materials & Methods: In this article, firstly, deontologists' argument in favor of the impermissibility of surrogate motherhood is formulated. Then, in order to undermine deontologists' argument and make surrogate motherhood plausible from moral viewpoint, some ideas are utilized from act utilitarianism.

Conclusion: As far as surrogate motherhood is concerned, formation of an ethical committee, composed of a specialist in ethics, a physician, a psychologist, and a sociologist, is proposed in order to concretize act utilitarianism concepts.

Key Words: Surrogate motherhood, Human dignity, Pain, Pleasure, Act utilitarianism.

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