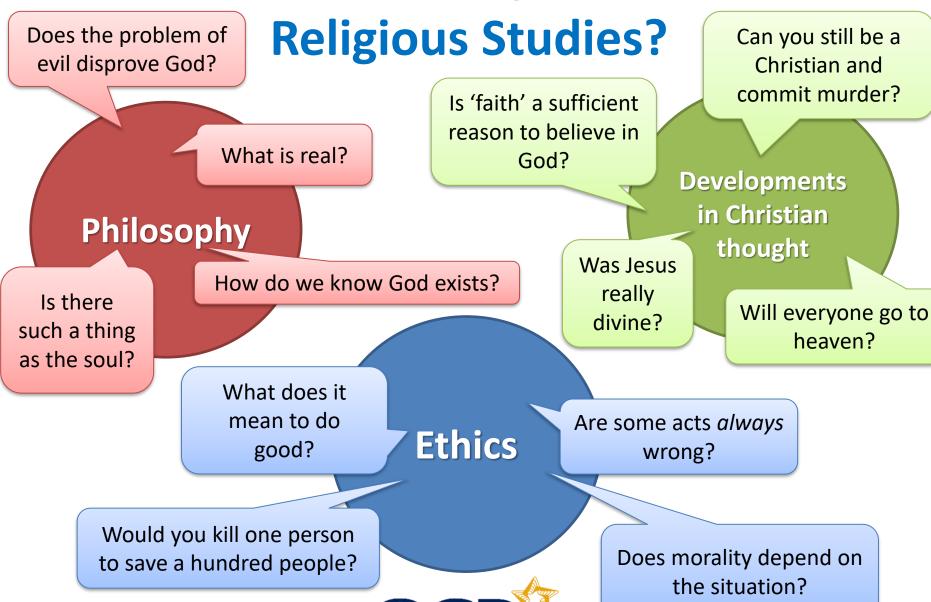
Welcome to a taster session in: A Level Religious Studies



Miss Evans

What will I study for A Level



Meta-ethics seeks
to answer deep
questions such as
what words like
good and bad,
right and wrong
actually mean



Normative ethics tries
to establish what is
right and what is wrong
by proposing systems
for working out how
human beings should
behave and why

Aim of today's session:

- To understand the different branches of normative ethics
- To discover what is important to you when making moral decisions: the act itself or the consequence of an act?

Some systems focus on the <u>act</u> itself, others focus on the <u>consequences</u> or both and some ethical systems focus on the person



Let's test your ethics...

What did you decide to do?

What do you think about the prisoner's actions?

What factors influenced your decision?

What does this experiment tell us about moral decision making?

What are the different types of normative ethics?

Read through the information on the different types of ethical systems and answer the questions provided.



Reflection: Do you believe ethics come from beliefs (religious or philosophical ones) human psychology or something else?

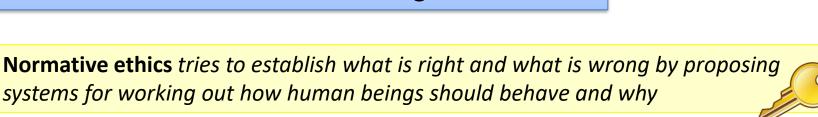
Normative ethics tries to establish what is right and what is wrong by proposing systems for working out how human beings should behave and why

What type of normative ethics suits you best?

In pairs you are to take it in turns to interview your partner on a range of ethical dilemmas.

The type of normative ethics that suits you best will be revealed shortly!

Reflection: Were there some dilemmas that you were unsure about what to do? What does this tell us about moral decision making?



What type of normative ethics suits you best?

Mostly A's...

Congratulations, you are a **deontologist!**

You believe that ethics should be focused on the <u>act</u> which is either intrinsically good or bad.

You may believe acts are important because you are motivated by duty or a belief that God has revealed e.g. through the Ten Commandments what acts are moral and immoral.

Mostly B's...

Congratulations you are a **teleologist!**

You believe that ethics should be based on the **consequences** of an action.

What is morally good is determined by the end result e.g. telling a lie to your friend may be justified if it brings about pleasure or reduces pain.

Teleologists also tend to focus on the numbers affected by moral decisions.

Mostly C's...

Congratulations you are a **hybrid**!

You believe that ethics should be focused on **both** the act and the consequence. You believe in following rules but in extreme cases, you may perform a bad act to achieve a loving outcome.

Or neither an act-centred or consequence-centred approach suits you, so you prefer a person-centred approach to ethics.

Normative ethics tries to establish what is right and what is wrong by proposing systems for working out how human beings should behave and why