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Despite how some of the assignments went during the course of the semester I would say that I actually learn a lot in this class. Most of what I knew about ethics before the class was based on what I learned growing up and what I learned through my own experiences, and up until taking this class I wasn't very familiar with many actually ethical schools of thought. Take Utilitarianism for example, we're all familiar with the trolley car question but we might not consider what it means in relation to utilitarian ethics.

Additionally, utilitarian ethics or some form of consequentialism is something that is commonly seen in modern tv shows and movies, its often something that the villain will use to justify their actions, saying that what they're doing is "for the greater good." I think the way that utilitarian and consequentialism is portrayed in this way tend to give it somewhat of a negative connotation. When in reality utilitarianism isn't inherently negative but instead more of a simple or blunt way to make decisions.

One of the assignments that I found to be very interesting was the case analysis on whistle blowing (5.4 I think). Whistle blowing is another thing that has a very strong negative connotation and to be honest I went into that case analysis expecting to be arguing that the whistle blower was in the wrong and what they did was both unethical and unjustified. However, once I actually started work on that case analysis and began to learn more about the situation and viewed the video that was attached to the assignment my viewpoint quickly changed. Additionally, the two articles about whistle blowing in the workplace that

were a part of that analysis made me realize that whistle blowing as a whole is something that is very important in both business and government and its something that should be allowed to happen as its actually very beneficial. If I remember correctly, I ended up using Kantian deontology in my argument for the case analysis in 5.4, as Kantian ethics is about the reasons for our actions and the whistle blower had good reasons to leak the video. However, I now realize it could have used virtue ethics as well. I'll admit I don't have the best grasp of virtue ethics but from what I understand it's about doing the right or virtuous thing in any given situation, and therefore I could have applied it to the whistle blower and achieved a similar result to using Kantian deontology.

The final and probably my biggest takeaway from this course would be Confucian ethics. Confucian ethics is about stay on our path and playing our role as best we can for a given situation, it's also probably the ethical tool we learned about in this class that is use the most in daily life without even realizing it. When I'm at school I try to play the role of the student as best I can, when I was a manager at work last summer, I played the role of a manager as best I could, something which was difficult as I had been working with the same people I was managing for the past few years and considered them all friends. But in the end, I had to play the role of a manager since that was what was required of me at the time.

Overall, I would say that I learn from this class, I hadn't taken an ethics class yet and after taking this one I've began to realize the importance of having a structured way of thinking and making decisions. Each ethical tool that way covered in this course had a

unique way of approaching situations and will continue to be helpful tool for me to use in my own life in the future.