

We're *rational* in our moral beliefs to the extent that we're consistent, informed, imaginative, and a few more things.

Be consistent.

CELI: Conscientiousness, ends-means, logicity, impartiality.

FUGS: Future-regard, universal law, golden rule, self-regard.

Be informed.

About the facts of the case, about other moral perspectives, and about yourself.

Be imaginative.

Imagine yourself in the place of the other person (or in your own place at a future point of time).

And so forth.

Feel free to think for yourself, develop feelings that support moral thinking, dialogue with others, etc.

If Romeo says “I desire that I’d be mistreated if I were a Capulet,” then we need to criticize his desires.



“I want to become a doctor.”



“I loathe the idea of eating worms.”



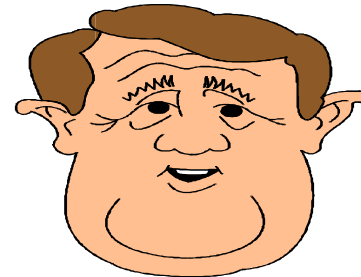
“I want to kill Capulets.”

Desires can be criticized using consistency, information, and imagination.



To rationally criticize racist actions, appeal to facts + imagination + rationalized desires + GR.

How can we deal with people who don't care if they are irrational?





Global Warming

1. **KNOW:** “How would our current use of fossil fuels affect future generations?”
2. **IMAGINE:** “What would it be like to have this done to me and to my loved ones?”
3. **TEST for consistency:** “Am I now willing that if I were in the same situation (as future generations) then this be done to me?”
4. **ACT** toward others only as you’re willing to be treated in the same situation.

SIX NEEDS: (1) clarity about the evidence for our causing global warming, (2) technology for alternative energy, (3) openness to big changes, (4) empathy for distant victims, (5) everyone to work together, and (6) a just distribution of burdens.

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1. Make informed decisions.
2. Be consistent in your beliefs and ends-means.
3. Live in harmony with your moral beliefs.
4. Make similar evaluations about similar cases.
5. Put yourself in the other person's place.
6. Treat others as you want to be treated.