MORAL COMPASS

**Business Ethics**

Business ethics is the topic which is chosen from the Markkula Center for Applied Ethics which will be analyzed through the Markkula Framework of Ethical Decision Making. Through the steps from the framework, the ethical decision will be made and justification regarding the appropriate moral action. Business ethics refers to the moral values and practices which guide on performance of different business activities. `

The topic I selected is bioethics with the major topic being PSA or Physician Assisted Suicide which is known to us as Mercy Killing. This will help doctors who are trying to make decisions concerning certain situations and morality following the code of ethics even though PAS has been legalized in some states.

My Argument

It is my opinion that doctors and no one else has the right to terminate the lives of people even if they are their patients. Mercy killing have been legalized. We know that the purpose of mercy killing is to end the suffering of those patient's where the only option is a miracle to save their lives. And I am a believer in miracles. Mercy killing should not be done by anyone even if it is legalized because it is a violation of nature. The law of nature is a separate law from civil law. This means that only nature can dictate what will happen to its surrounding and man's life is part of nature. Since the purpose of creation is life, then this is a violation of life. Therefore, we do not have any rights to end the life of our family members who are ill and even doctors should not do it. Let them live with what the nature dictates even if it is in terms of suffering. Give them the relief that they can and let them live. If there is no option but to suffer which may result to death then let it be, let them undergo a natural death. This can prevent us from any moral liabilities, liabilities to God and to nature.

I am sure you wonder, why liability to God? Since man is created by God, He is the only one who can dictate what will happen to his creation by which no one has the right to intervene. The Bible tells us that once appointed man to die, then the judgment. Aside from this, we also need to evaluate mercy killing in terms of morality, since morality is different from legality; not a all legal are moral but all moral is legal. Using the determinants of morality, we can find the mercy killing is still an immoral act. The object of mercy killing is killing itself. And in morality in form of killing is immoral not matter if it is legal. Let us know the intention. The intention of mercy killing is to end the life of the ill patient who is suffering. Ending a life is still killing which suffering maybe the cause of it. While those families who are will not anymore suffer from any financial liabilities since the shorter the stay in the hospital, the shorter or lesser the bills. But this is a wrong reason, no matter what happen we need to save life and if we do not have any option at all then let it be by natural death. In this way, we can prevent moral liabilities.

The same with the setting of mercy killing, the person is very and there is not option to save the life and we do not want this patient to suffer anymore; but is it correct to end the life of a person when we are not the rightful one who can give life for him/her? What I mean to say is, do we have the capacity to end the life when we do not have the capacity to give life? These things must be considered in this situation. These are the reasons why I do not see those doctors, or anyone has the capacity to end the life of one even if mercy killing is legalized. This is the reason of Kant’s point that we have moral obligation to others. We cannot let the life of others be put in vain or we should not end it by our own hands.

If faced with that situation, I would allow the patient to undergo a natural death especially if there is no option or if I am a member of the patient’s family. This way was free of any moral liability although we will know that we have done our best to save our family members life.

Markkula makes his framework in ethical decision making very clear. From the utilitarian point of view which deals with consequences, and it tries both to increase the good done and to reduce the harm done. I think it is not harmful for the patient to undergo a natural death since life begins in nature, and it should end the same. And from the rights approach, the patient who is suffering still has the rights to his life whether is conscious or not. And we can say from this view that the patient still chooses to live where happiness is. and by virtue of the common good. Being free of any moral liability is the common goal here. And doing the best as much as we can without sacrificing life is for the common good and if this patient dies a natural death, then our conscience is clear. If I was a physician or part of the family this is how I would feel. So, I think from the moral approaches that Markkula presents, my suggested decision is justifiable, and it is ethical.

**THEORIES**

Moral theories are significant in aiding an individual in justifying the ethical decisions made which are mostly not predictive. They also help the physicians to have a deep review and justification of the decisions made before actualizing them. Moral theories are vital in helping an individual in making the right moral compass and provide options on the best way to act regarding the situation.

The Deontological Theory focuses closely on putting duty first and acting rationally which includes giving moral weight to the intrinsic equality of all human beings.

Utilitarian Theory is a popular view of ethics and the economies and market outlook which is utilized in making decisions concerning the business, management, and economics.

Common Good Theory suggests the best and fair way of distributing goods to the people.

Business ethics mostly affects the businesspeople as they are the most who must have some values and practices to be successful in the business field. Some moral values include honesty, integrity, fairness, and law-abiding. The virtue theory in this case will be used to maintain and respect various stakeholders. When the business ethics are observed, there is business success which is through the teamwork from different staff members.