

Harriet McBryde Johnson's Piece

- Ethics of Care vs. Utilitarianism
 - Utilitarian- greatest good for the greatest number of people
 - Not inherently a bad idea but use by people like Peter Singer creates larger issues
 - Who is deciding what should be considered “good”?
 - More consequential approach- just interested in the consequences of actions
 - Ethics of care- focused on rehabilitation, restorative justice, responding to what has been going on and a focus on the future and relationships
 - Evolved from feminist theory
 - Not just focused on logical assumptions
- Peter Singer
 - Preference utilitarianism
 - He is very focused on consequences of actions
 - Came to Haverford in 2016
 - Brought by effective altruism club
 - Based on the idea of how can we most effectively/ “efficiently” give out philanthropic money
 - Still managed to bring up disability during his talk but many people were not having it
 - Most famous for animal rights ideas but advocates for the idea of infanticide as a choice for parents
 - Specific ideas about “personhood”
 - Self-consciousness
 - Autonomy (opposite to interdependence)
 - Rationality
 - Babies are human but not considered persons because they have not developed personhood- applied the same idea to people with disabilities who he believed were “lacking” in these specific categories
 - Believed that disabled people are “worse off” and that's the main aspect of why he argues for infanticide
 - He focused too much on theoretical framework and does not acknowledge the reality of how people live in the world
 - Despite holding these beliefs for a very long time he has refused to change his perspective and the main parts of his argument
- Harriet McBryde Johnson
 - Was invited to Princeton by Singer and pushed against his ideas
 - Disability rights activist and lawyer
 - Debated with Singer in a respectful manner but difficult since topic was mainly focused on ideas personal to her