

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IB

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION FOR PART II OF THE PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS

Friday 1 June 2001

9 to 12

Paper 4

ETHICS

*Answer **three** questions only.*

Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer. If you are answering an either/or question, indicate the letter as well.

**You may not start to read the questions
printed on the subsequent pages of this
question paper until instructed that you
may do so by the Invigilator**

- 1 Do emotions get in the way of rational ethical behaviour, or do they help it?
- 2 If I am obliged to act in a certain way, is everyone in the same situation obliged to act in the same way?
- 3 Is voluntary euthanasia ever unjustified?
- 4 'We have obligations only to beings that exist. Future people do not exist. So we have no obligations to future people.' Discuss.
- 5 **Either** (a) Can the nature of an end, by itself, give us good reasons to promote it?
Or (b) What is the connection between what I want and what I have a reason to do?
- 6 Can we distinguish the intended from the merely foreseen consequences of an action? Is the distinction morally significant?
- 7 Does the *Nicomachean Ethics* give us any useful guidance on which character traits are moral virtues?
- 8 Is Aristotle able to explain how we can be responsible for our moral character?
- 9 Is the distinction between bringing something about and allowing it to happen morally significant?
- 10 'I should act on principle, but thinking that I am acting on principle should not be part of my motive for acting.' Discuss.

END OF PAPER