

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II

Monday 24 May 2004

9 to 12

Paper 3

ETHICS

Answer **three** questions only.

Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer. If you are answering the 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 'Fertility treatment is a private matter and should be left to individual discretion.'
Discuss.
- 2 Do moral facts ever feature in the explanation of moral beliefs?
- 3 Is it irrational to forgo the satisfaction of one's needs in order to satisfy one's
desires?
- 4 Is freedom a necessary illusion?
- 5 **Either** (a) '*Autonomy* of the will is the sole principle of all moral laws and of
duties in keeping with them' (KANT, *Critique of Practical
Reason*, 5:33). Discuss.
Or (b) Are universal moral principles too indeterminate to guide action?
Alternatively, are they too determinate to guide it well?
- 6 On what view of the good life, if any, can people's lives be made better or worse
by things that happen after they are dead?
- 7 What view of the nature of morality can best make sense of moral dilemmas?
- 8 Does the equation of goodness with one or other natural property solve anything?
- 9 'Expressivism requires a robust distinction between facts and values. But there is
no such distinction.' Discuss.
- 10 If there were a gene, or genes, predisposing people to vices such as fanaticism,
why shouldn't we breed them out?

END OF PAPER