

## 24.06 / STS.006

### Paper 2 Questions

Paper 2 (4-6 pages) is due on Tuesday March 14, in lecture. Please answer one of the following questions, and remember to type the question at the top of your paper. Be sure to cite all your sources accurately.

- (1) Marquis argues that first trimester abortion is, in most cases, gravely *immoral*. Reagan does not directly address the question of whether abortion is immoral. Instead she argues that criminalization of abortion has intolerably bad consequences, and hence abortion should be *legal*. Can these claims be reconciled? If they cannot be reconciled, which should we reject and why?
  
- (2) Stinson and Stinson's article, "On the Death of a Baby," tells how their son became "hopelessly entrapped in an intensive care unit." Given what you know about the history of medical technology and bioethics in the 1960s and 1970s (e.g. Emanuels, Reiser, Annas, Tooley, Rachels, "Optimum Care," etc.), can you explain why such a powerful conflict occurred? What were the hopes and fears of doctors and families, and how did they become so incompatible?
  
- (3) In Section V of "Abortion and Infanticide" Tooley makes a case against "the conservative position on abortion." It boils down to two claims:
  - (i) We should accept that early abortion is immoral only if we accept what he calls the "potentiality principle."
  - (ii) We should not accept this "potentiality principle."What are his arguments for (i) and (ii)? Do these arguments work? If you think they don't work, can you construct better ones?