

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA
PHILOSOPHY 4: INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS
WINTER QUARTER 2009

PAPER ASSIGNMENT ONE

Due Friday, January 23, 2009: Late papers will not be accepted without written excuse from President Obama! (actually the previous sentence is false; for questions about late papers see the syllabus).

The essays should be **at least 4 pages long but no more than 5 pages** (between 1000-1300 words), double-spaced, one-inch margins, and 12-point font, times new roman or equivalent (not wingdings). This paper is worth 20% of your course grade.

Write on the following topic, answering each part of the topic:

Prompt:

State and explain the conclusion Judith Jarvis Thompson draws about the permissibility of abortion in cases of pregnancy due to rape. How does she argue for her conclusion? State and explain her argument. Be sure to explain type of argument she gives for her position, what she takes for granted for the sake of argument, etc. State and explain one criticism to her argument. Be sure to explain what a good criticism of her argument would seek to do and how the criticism you cite does this. Next, respond to the criticism on Thompson's behalf (Not that you agree with her, but how would she be likely to respond), or state why the criticism is a defeater of Thompson's argument.