

A Summary Toolbox for Public Health Ethics---Harvey Kayman 7/7/07.

Biomedical ethical formulations:	Public health correlates to biomedical ethical formulations:
Autonomy.	Personal autonomy versus the common good.
Beneficence.	Obligation and responsibility.
Non-Maleficence.	Authority and decision-making.
Justice.	Least unfair distribution of benefits and burdens through rational prioritization.

The Precautionary principle can be a guide for decision-makers:

- Inclusiveness.
- Transparency.
- Accountability.
- Acting in the face of uncertainty.

There are many philosophical approaches that might be utilized in public-health ethical discourse.

A few include:

- Rights (Locke).
- Utility; distributive justice, intended and unintended consequences and derivatives (Mills).
- Universal ideals and intentions; categorical imperatives and deontology (Kant).
- Virtue (Aristotle) See below.
- Relationship based (Gilligan).
- Communitarian (Hume).
- Blended approaches (Beauchamp and Childress).

Virtues:

From my point of view, please find a spectrum of virtues that are context dependent:

- Honesty/stealth in oppressed populations.
- Courage/personal safety and self-preservation.
- Compassion and altruism/informed self-interest.
- Generosity/resource concentration.
- Fidelity/personal protection.
- Integrity/conflicting commitments.
- Fairness/who decides?
- Self-control/freedom of action.
- Prudence/bold action.

Ethical decision should be means tested (Jacobson versus Massachusetts):

- Effective.
- Proportionate.
- Necessary.
- Impartial.
- Least restrictive means.

Overlap: Ethics, Regulatory/legal issues, Spiritual health, Mental health, and Risk communication:

