Chapter 13: Strengths and Weaknesses of Utilitarianism
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• Two types of utilitarianism
  – Act utilitarianism: An act is right if and only if it results in as much good or utility as any available alternative
  – Rule utilitarianism: An act is right if and only if it is required by a rule that is a member of a set of rules whose acceptance would lead to a greater utility than any available alternative

• Advantages of utilitarianism
  – Single principle yields potential answer for every situation
  – Substantive rather than merely formal doctrine
Chapter 13: Strengths and Weaknesses of Utilitarianism (continued)

• Five objections to utilitarianism
  1. No-rest objection
     – How can I rest or enjoy life if by sacrificing I can make others happier?
     – Response: Rule prescribing rest and entertainment would be included in a utility-maximizing set of rules
  2. Absurd-implications objection
     – Utilitarianism can lead to morally counterintuitive conclusions
     – Response: We should be ready to change our moral biases in the interest of utility
  3. Integrity objection
     – Utilitarianism can require us to violate our most deeply held principles
     – Response: Integrity is not an absolute; some alienation might be necessary for the moral life
4. Justice objection
   – Utilitarianism can require unjust actions
   – Response: Justice is not an absolute, but it makes good sense to have a principle of justice we generally follow

5. Publicity objection
   – It is not prudent to recommend that everyone act as a utilitarian
   – Response: Utilitarian rules can be universally recommended, and publicity is not an absolute requirement of morality