



Next Week – The Final Session

Goal:

A guided conversation across all six weeks. Not a lecture — a conversation. We bring the antidisciplinary stance back to your own work, and end with everyone naming one principle to carry forward.

Before class — please prepare:

- Read the prep handout.
- Spend about 5–10 minutes per topic thinking through one or two prompts.
- You will not submit this.

Where to find everything:

- <https://dna.chibatech.dev/lectures/synthesis-discussion/>
- Prep handout (read in browser): .../homework.html
- Worksheet (download, fill in offline): .../worksheet.md

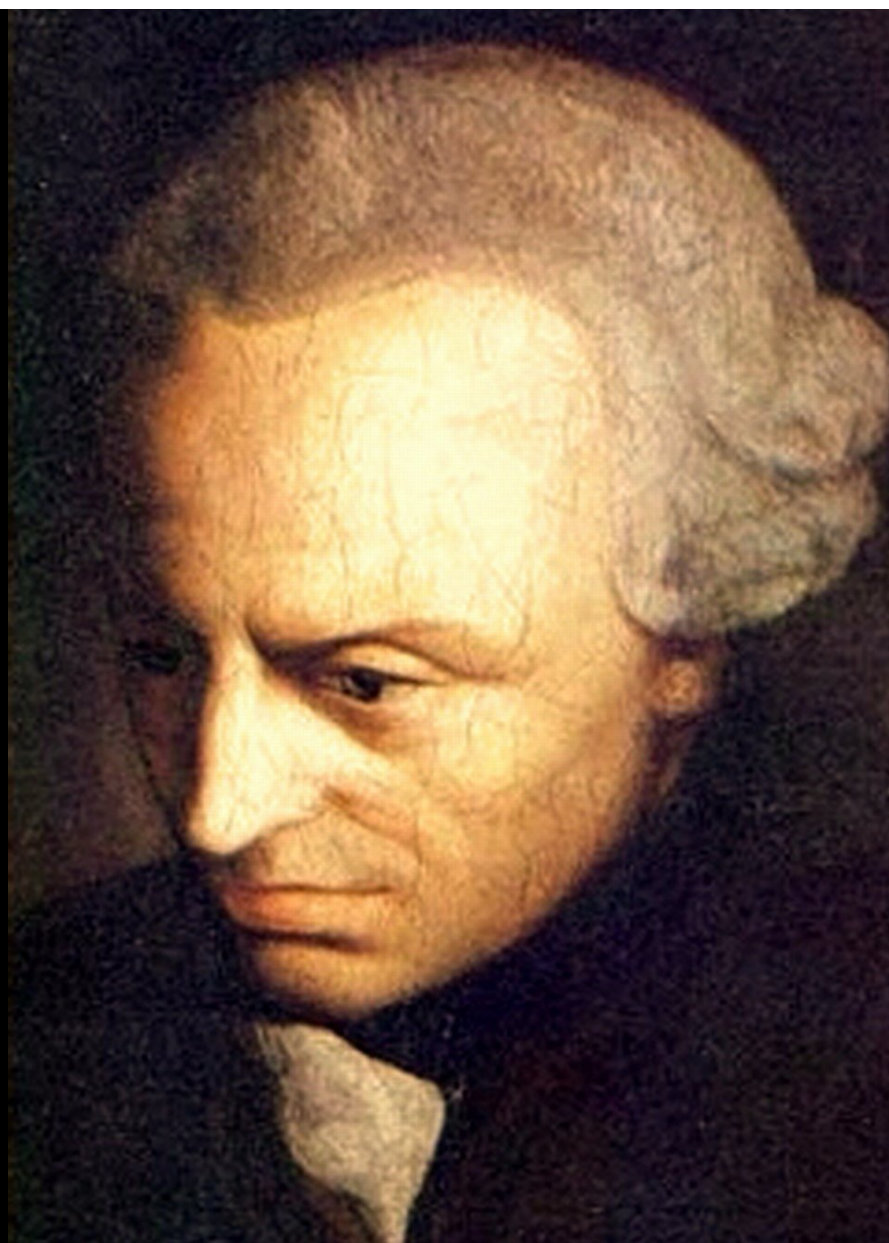
Class structure

- 5 min recap · 4 × 25-min topics
- 15 min close (one principle each, around the room)



What is Utilitarianism?

Catharina Maracke





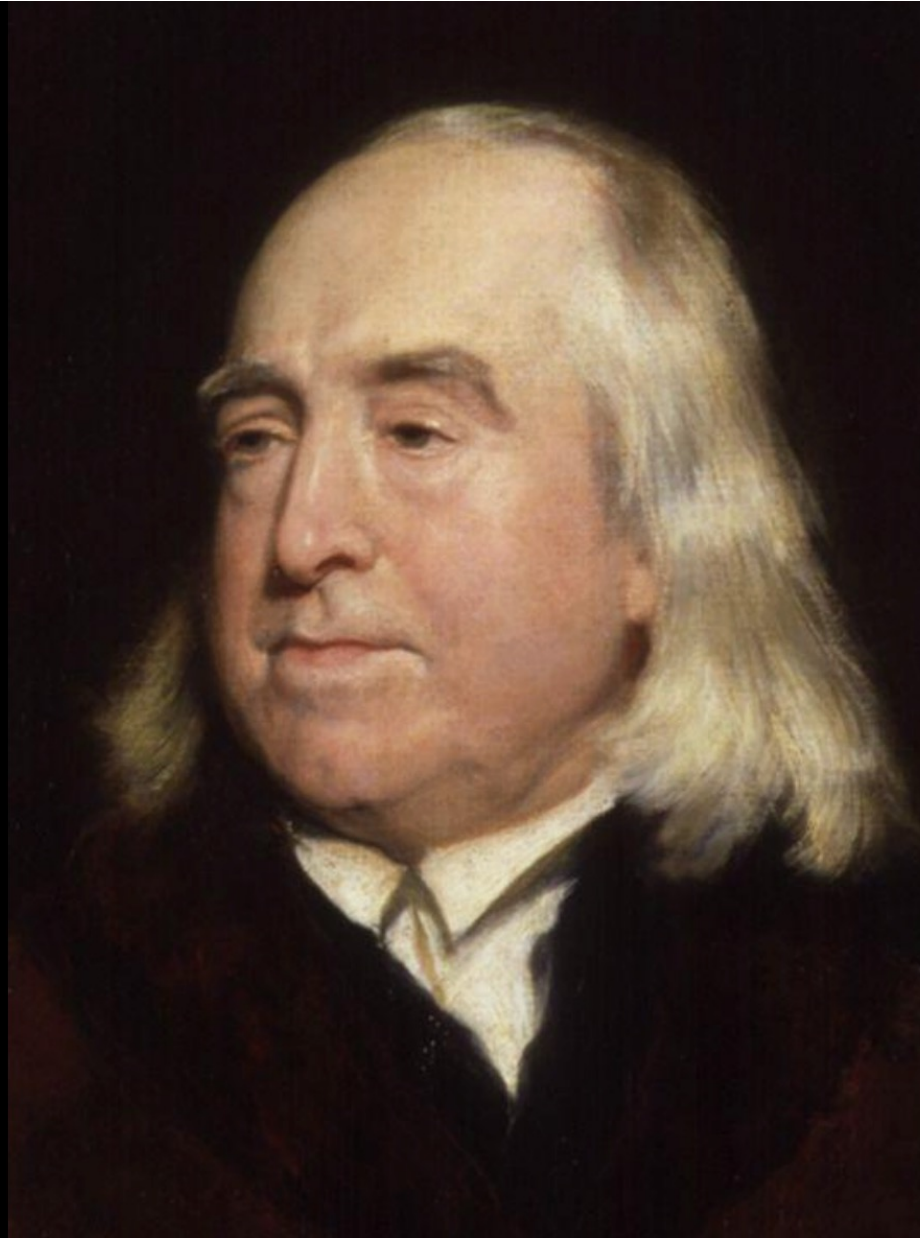
Immanuel Kant 1724-1804

- > German philosopher – modern philosophy
- > Born in Koenigsberg, Prussia (Kaliningrad, Russia)
- > Main work: “Critique Of Pure Reason”
- > Categorical imperative?
- > There is only one single moral obligation derived from the concept of duty



Categorical Imperative

“Act only according to that maxim whereby you can, at the same time, will that it should become a universal law.”





Jeremy Bentham 1747/8 - 1832

- > English philosopher, jurist, and social reformer
- > Born in London, England
- > Founder of modern “utilitarianism”



Utilitarianism (Bentham)

**“The greatest happiness of the greatest number,
that is the measure of right and wrong.”**



Difference?

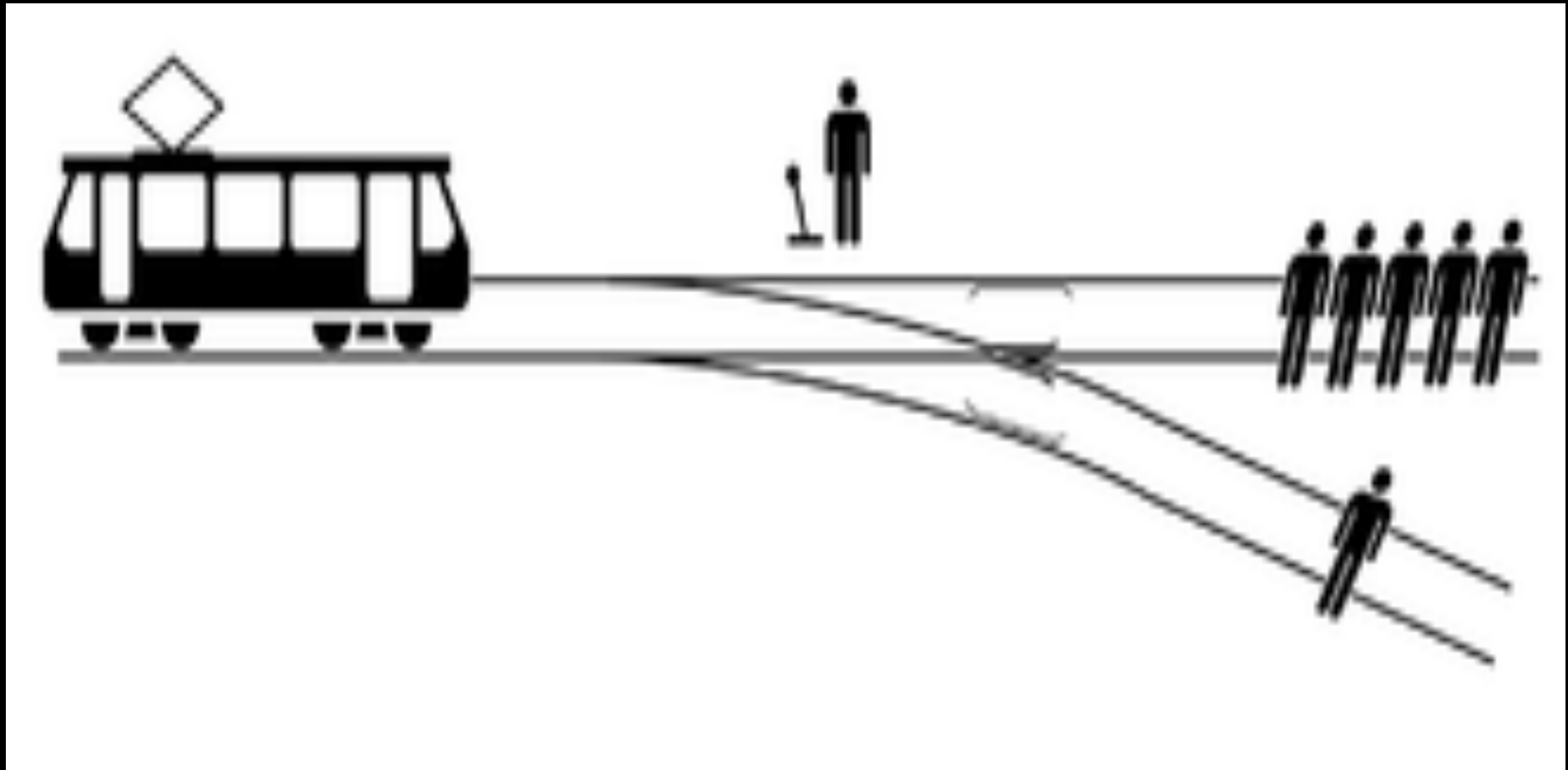
Focus on Action

What am I doing?

Focus on Consequences

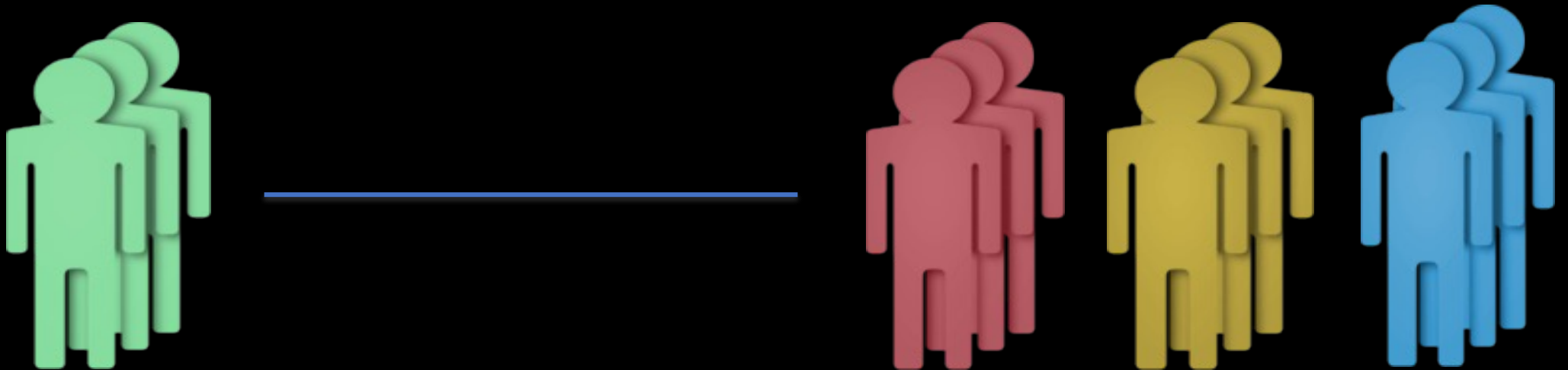
What is the outcome/result?

Example: The Trolley Car





Counting the Numbers





Example: Jakob von Metzler Case?

Background: Kidnapping September 27, 2002.

Magnus Gaefgen was arrested four days later after he had collected the ransom money, but he refused to disclose where Jakob was being kept.

Consequently, because he imagined Jakobs life was in imminent danger, the deputy police chief of Frankfurt ordered his team to extract the necessary information from Magnus Gaefgen by threatening to torture him.

A few minutes after being threatened, Magnus Gaefgen told the police where to find Jakob, but when the officers arrived, it was already too late.

Magnus Gaefgen was sentenced to life imprisonment in 2003.



Example: Jakob von Metzler Case?

Deputy police chief of Frankfurt and his senior officer were convicted in 2004 and fined, but their sentences were suspended.

Neither torture not even the tread of torture are instruments at the disposal of a police force operating under the rules of law....

See detailed discussion with Michael Sandel at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7FR-FuhN2HM>



Example: Jakob von Metzler Case?

Legal Evaluation?

German law clearly forbids torture! The criminal law and the constitution explicitly forbid the use of force or the threat of force against any suspect.

- Think about the rights of the victim Jakob von Metzler
- Think about the rights of the accused Magnus Gaefgen

Was it legal to threaten Magnus Gaefgen to try and get information about the victim and potentially save his life?



Example: Jakob von Metzler Case?

Ethical Evaluation?

Critical question was whether the case against Markus Gaefgen should be dismissed because the police themselves broke the law or whether in this case a resort to torture was justified?

Arguments?

Think about this case in the context of the German History where we can see great sensitivity to anything that can be seen as police misbehavior!



Break 

Handover





Thank you.