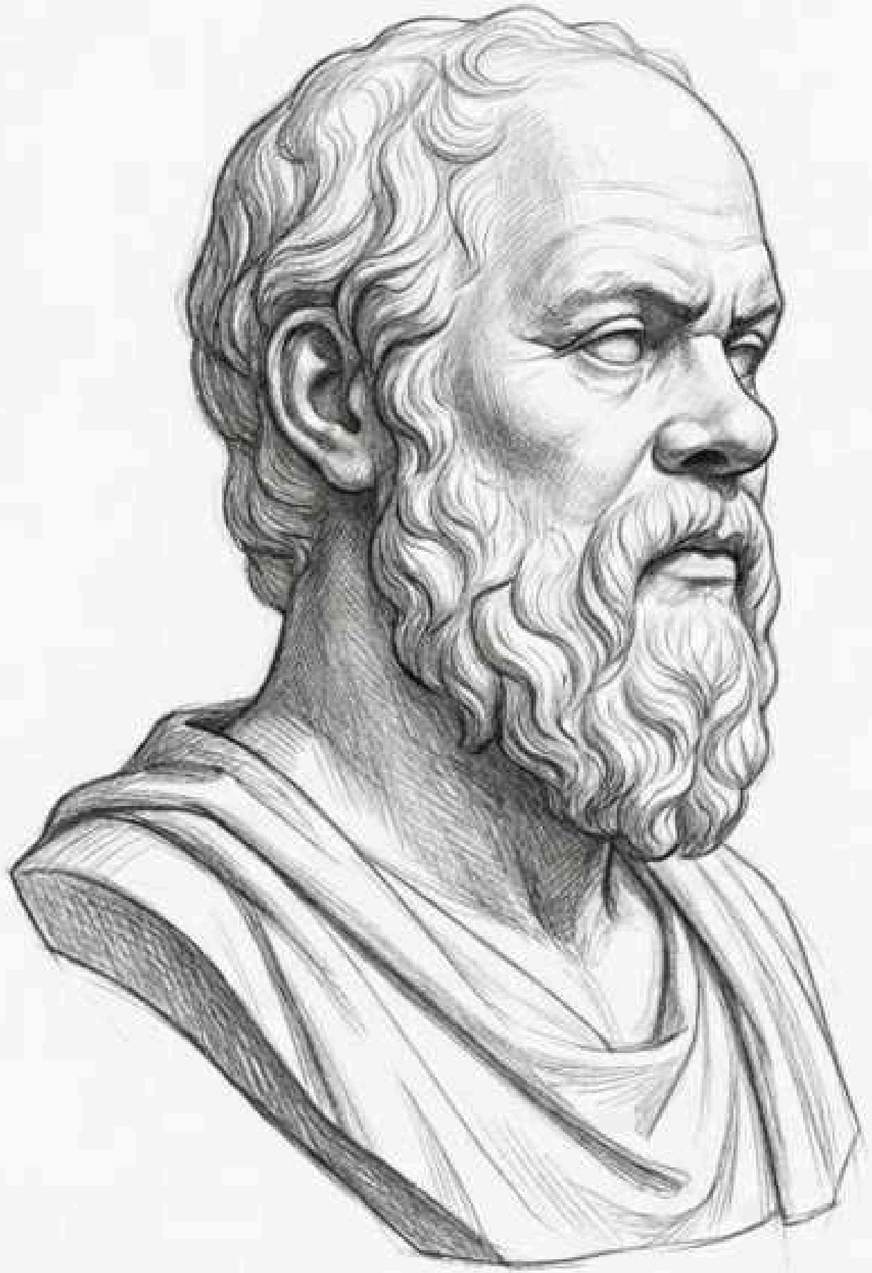
¶ 4.1



PHIL 101 B: Lecture 4

Ethics: How Should We Live?

Note: This course is free.

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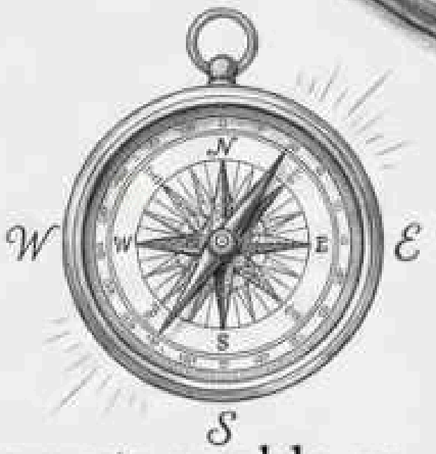
¶ 4.2

$$\text{Ethics} = \int(\text{Meta}) + \sum(\text{Normative}) \rightarrow \text{Applied}$$

Metaethics — What do moral claims mean? Can they be true?



Normative Ethics — Which actions are right, and why?



Applied Ethics — Applying theories to concrete problems.







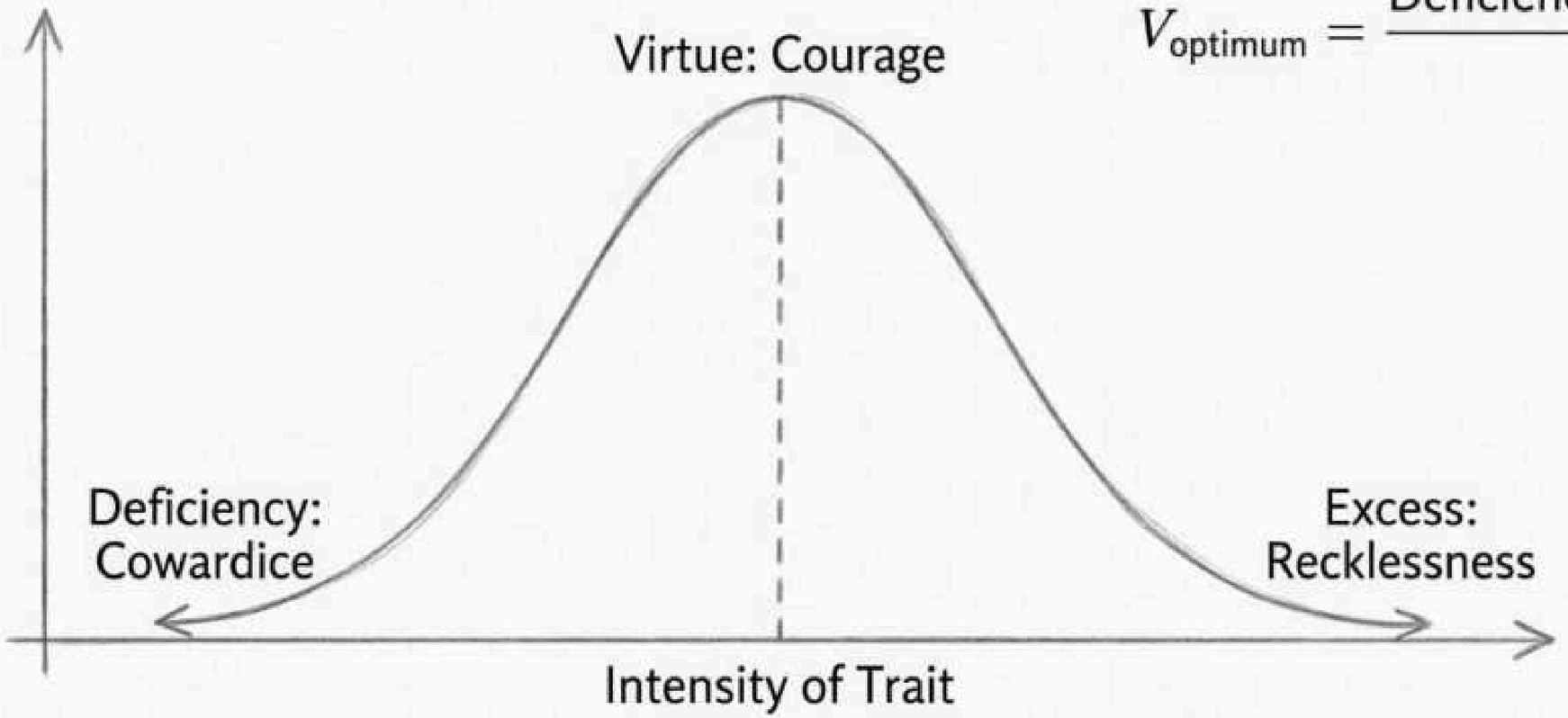
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¶ 4.3

Aristotle's Calculus of Character (Nicomachean Ethics)

The aim of life is Eudaimonia (flourishing/happiness).

$$V_{\text{optimum}} = \frac{\text{Deficiency} + \text{Excess}}{2}$$



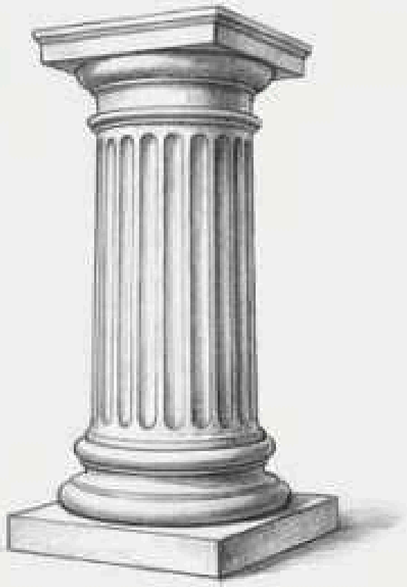
Mechanism: Developing virtues (courage, temperance, justice, practical wisdom) through habit, finding the exact point between extremes.

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¶ 4.4

The Stoics

Epictetus, Marcus Aurelius



Virtue is the only real good. Calm acceptance of what lies outside our control.

The Epicureans

Epicurus



The best life is one of modest pleasure, characterized by freedom from fear and pain.

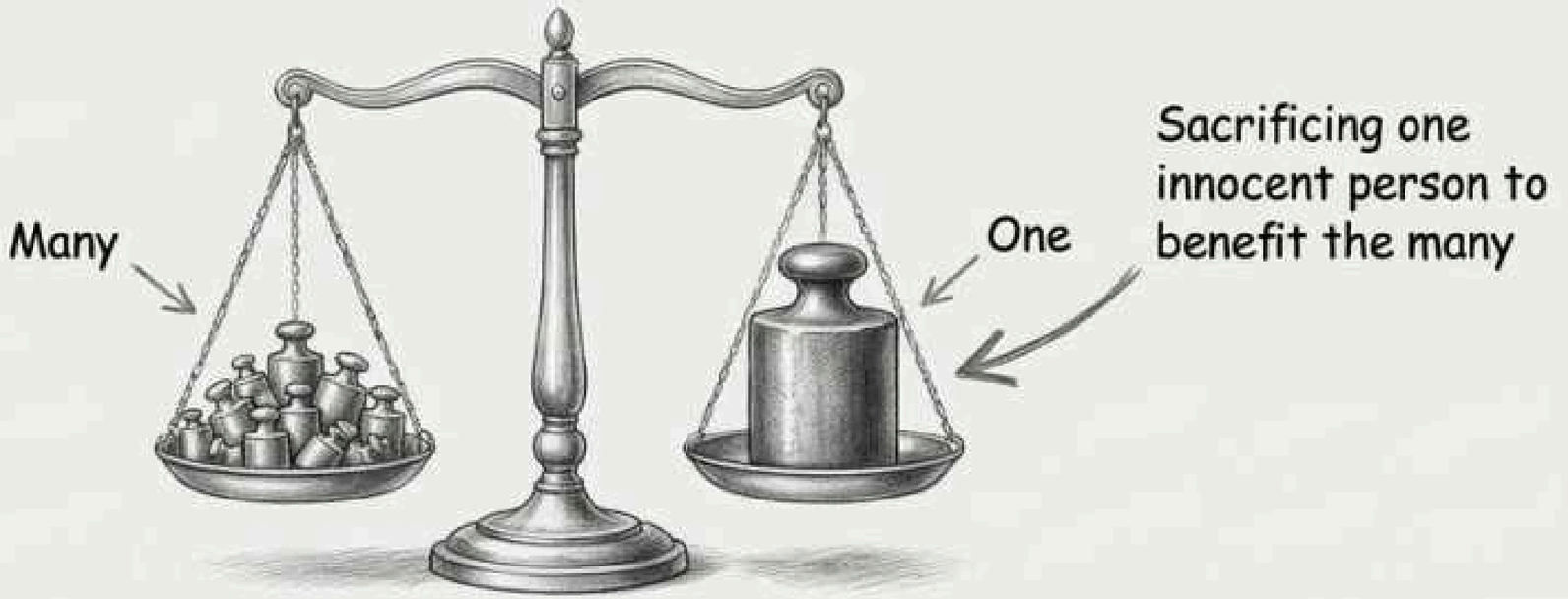
Philosophy = Practical Art of Living
(Not just a classroom subject)

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The Utilitarian Equation (Bentham & Mill)

$$\max U = \sum (\text{Happiness}_i - \text{Pain}_i)$$

Core Rule: The right action produces the greatest happiness for the greatest number.



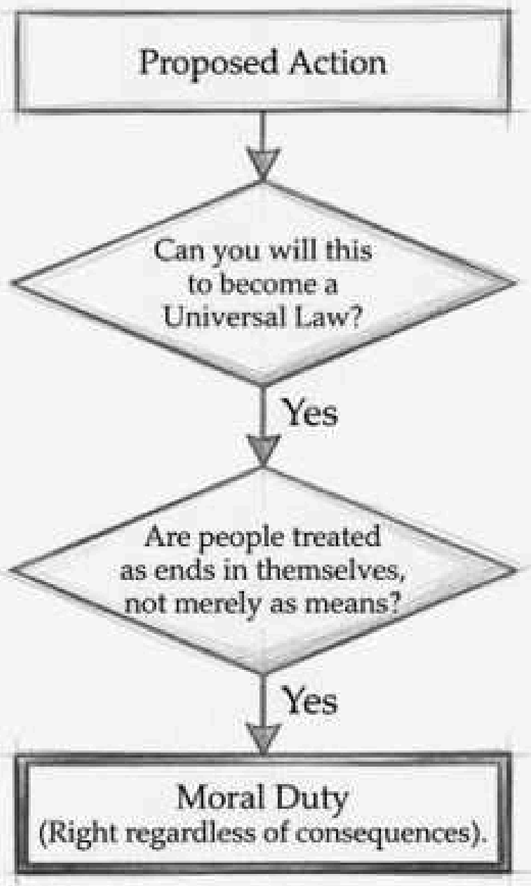
Strength (+):
Takes everyone's welfare seriously; provides a clear, mathematical test.

Difficulty (-):
Permits terrible acts if the math works.

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Kant's Categorical Imperative

$\forall x\,(\text{Action}_x \rightarrow \text{UniversalLaw}_x)$



Strength (+):	**Difficulty (-):**
Fiercely protects individual rights.	Rigid rules can conflict; produces harsh results in unusual cases.

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¶ 4.7

$$f(Action) \rightarrow f(Character)$$

Virtue Ethics Revival

Anscombe, Foot, MacIntyre

Shifts the question from What should I do? → What kind of person should I be?

The Modern Pivot

Ethics of Care



Emphasizes relationships and responsibility to those who depend on us.

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The Metaethical Diagnostic

¶ 4.8

Relativists	Right/wrong depends on culture.	$Truth = f(Culture)$
Realists	Moral claims are objectively true (like math).	$\exists m \in Truths$
Emotivists	Moral statements express feelings, not facts.	*Statement* = "Boo, wrong!"

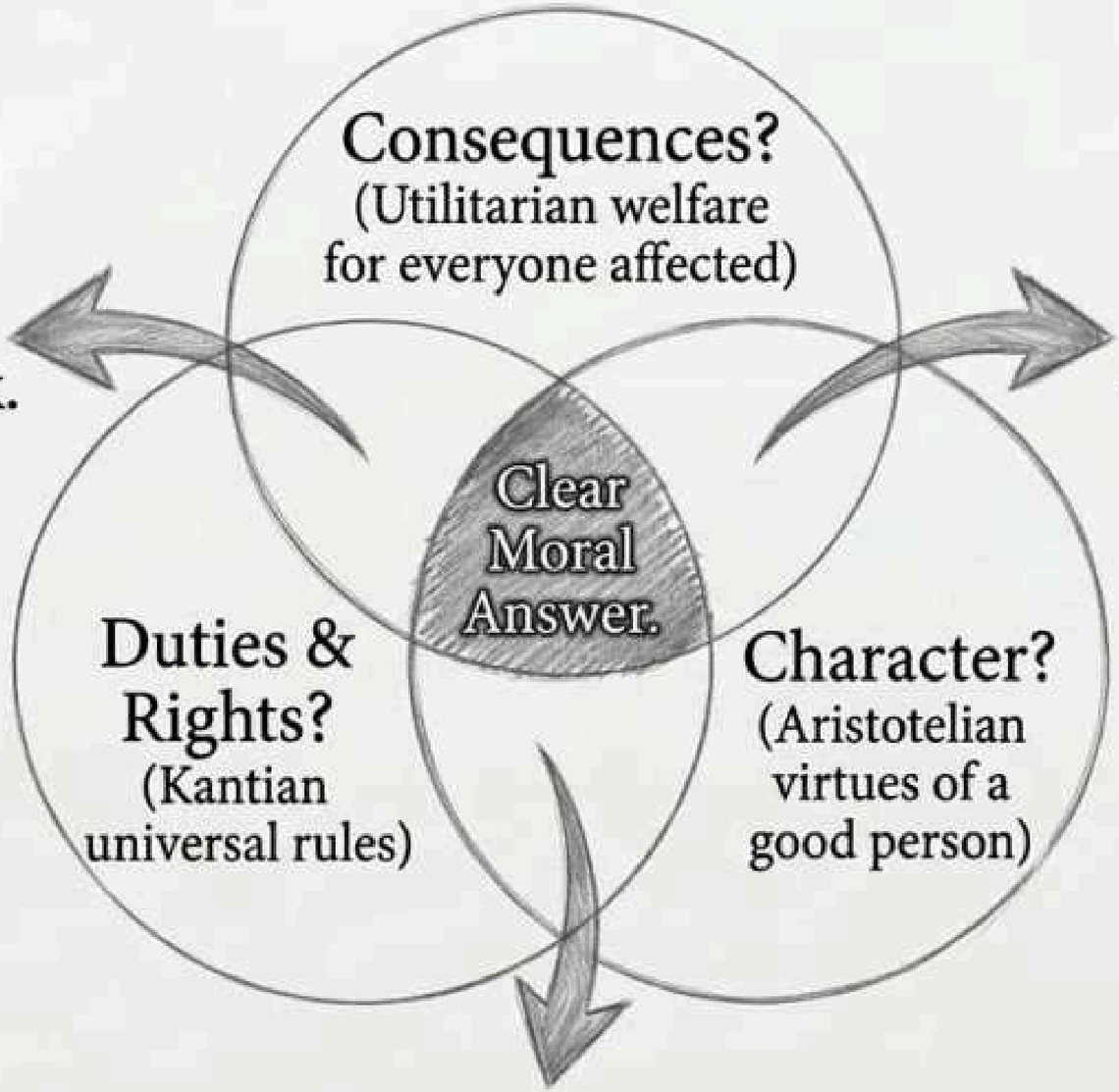


Axiom: Disagreement about morality does not prove relativism, just as disagreement about the age of the universe doesn't prove there is no fact of the matter.

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The Moral Triangulation (Synthesis)

¶ 4.9



Real Moral Dilemma → Philosophy at Work.

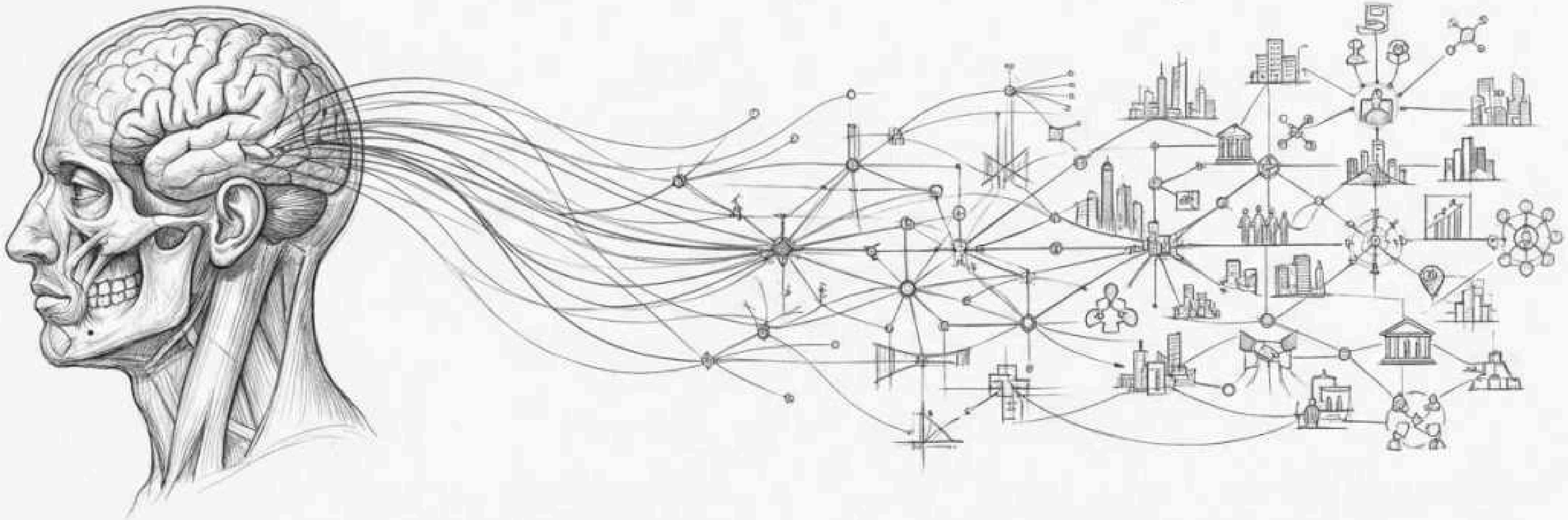
Real Moral Dilemma → Philosophy at Work.

Real Moral Dilemma → Philosophy at Work.

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¶ 4.10

Individual ⊂ Community



Our choices do not happen in a vacuum; they happen in communities.

Next: The Philosophy of Society and the Mind.

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