Learning Activity 3.1.

Ethical and Legal Issues in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing

Identify the following key terms associated with ethical and legal issues in psychiatric mental health nursing with the descriptions or definitions listed next.

a. assault	j. Kantianism
b. battery	k. malpractice
c. beneficence	l. natural law
d. Christian ethics	m. nonmaleficence
e. torts	n. slander
f. common law	o. statutory law
g. libel	p. utilitarianism
h. ethical egoism	q. civil law
i. false imprisonment	r. criminal law

_____ 1. Ethical theory by which decisions are based on a sense of duty

_____ 2. Writing false and malicious information about a person

_____ 3. The touching of another person without consent

_____ 4. Provides protection from conduct deemed injurious to the public welfare

_____ 5. Abstaining from negative acts toward another, including acting carefully to avoid harm

_____ 6. An act resulting in a person's genuine fear and apprehension that he or she will be touched without consent

_____ 7. The theory on which decisions are based in which evil acts are never condoned, even if they are intended to advance the noblest of ends

_____ 8. A violation of a civil law in which an individual has been wronged

_____ 9. The ethical theory on which decisions are based that ensure the greatest happiness to the greatest number of people

_____10. The deliberate and unauthorized confinement of a person within fixed limits by the use of threat or force

_____11. The failure of a professional to perform or to refrain from performing in a manner in which a reputable member within the profession would be expected to do

_____12. An ethical principle that refers to one's duty to benefit or promote the good of others

_____13. Law that has been enacted by legislative bodies

_____14. Verbalizing false and malicious information about a person

_____15. An ethical theory that espouses making decisions based on what is most advantageous for the person making the decision

_____16. Law that is derived from decisions made in previous cases

_____17. Law that protects the private and property rights of individuals and businesses

_____18. The ethical theory that espouses "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you"

Homework Assignment Questions and Answers

Please read the chapter and answer the following questions:

1. **Malpractice and negligence are examples of what kind of law?**

2. **What charges may be brought against a nurse for confining a client against his or her wishes (outside of an emergency situation)?**

3. **Which ethical theory espouses that what is right and good is what is best for the individual making the decision? Which quality and safety in nursing education competency may be, at least in part, consistent with ethical egoism?**

4. **Name the three major elements of informed consent.**