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The utilitarian ethical theory argues that choices should be made based on the results of those decisions and that the moral value of an action is decided by its ability to achieve the greatest good for the largest amount of people. I will present the main viewpoints of key philosophers associated with utilitarianism, discuss the main terms and arguments, provide a practical example, and give my own responses on the sufficiency of the theory for moral reasoning.

Jeremy Bentham is the primary figure connected with utilitarianism. He believed that only pleasure and pain can motivate people to act and that choices should be made based on how well they can maximize joy and reduce misery for the most people. The principle of utility, put out by Bentham, states that an action's moral worth is determined by its ability to boost the happiness of the largest amount of people.

Bentham thought that this principle might be used to develop a scientific approach to moral judgment that could be used to address a variety of social issues, from economics to criminal justice. Bentham created the hedonic calculus, a set of standards for weighing the pleasure and suffering given by a certain activity, to put the idea into practice. The criteria take into account things like intensity, length, certainty, and distance. Finding the overall total pleasure or pain that could result from an event is the goal of the hedonic calculus.

Bentham's ideas were expanded on by John Stuart Mill, who argued that not all pleasures are created equal and that some are more valued than others. According to Mill, intellectual pleasures like reading and learning are better than physical ones like eating and drinking. He also felt that as long as it did not hurt other people, everyone should be allowed to pursue their own happiness.

The idea of the "greatest good" is one of the key points with utilitarianism. This is a reference to the idea that decisions should be made based on how well they would benefit society as a whole. The hedonic calculus is another important concept.

The fact that utilitarianism offers a precise and unbiased standard for moral judgment is one of its primary defenses. Utilitarianism allows people to base moral judgments on facts and logical analysis by emphasizing the effects of actions rather than on objective guidelines or rules. Another argument is that utilitarianism prioritizes the interests of society as a whole over the interests of particular people or groups.

Although Bentham's theories were innovative at the time, they were also criticized. Utilitarianism has also come under fire for a number of reasons. Being unable to predict the outcome of a decision with certainty is one of the main concerns. This may have unexpected consequences and make it challenging to determine an action's moral worth. Another criticism of

utilitarianism is that it may end in the sacrifice of personal freedoms and rights in favor of the greater good. This can occasionally end in the oppression of minority groups.

Imagine a pharmaceutical company has created an experimental medicine that has a chance to treat a terminal illness but is very expensive to produce. Utilitarianism argues that a drug's ability to increase the greatest amount of happiness for the greatest number of people determines its moral worth. Even though the drug has the potential to save many lives, if it is too expensive for most people to purchase, it may not be worthwhile to produce using that argument.

Utilitarianism, in my opinion, provides a helpful structure for moral decision-making, but it should not be the only basis to evaluate actions. While the principle of promoting the greatest good for the greatest number is an important one, it should be compared to other ethical issues like individual rights protection and cultural diversity protection. Also, utilitarianism can be difficult to put into reality because it requires a high level of knowledge and anticipation for predicting the consequences of an action. Overall, while utilitarianism is an important ethical theory, it should be used with other ethical frameworks to make sure that all relevant factors are thought of.

I agree that utilitarianism should not be the only method used to evaluate actions. While encouraging the greatest good for the greatest number is an important idea, it is not always enough to assess an action's moral reliability. It is essential to evaluate how an action would affect human liberty and dignity, as well as cultural diversity. Despite these disadvantages, I believe utilitarianism provides a useful structure for moral decision-making. It helps us to think about the consequences of our actions and assess the potential advantages and disadvantages. It can also be used to evaluate public policy and make distributing resources decisions.

In conclusion, utilitarianism is a theory of ethics that is consequential that evaluates actions based on their ability to achieve the greatest good for the most amount of people. Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill, two key utilitarian philosophers, suggested the concepts of utility and the idea of discriminating between sorts of pleasure, respectively. The main terms and arguments associated with utilitarianism include the concepts of the greatest good and the hedonic calculus. While utilitarianism provides a clear and objective standard for moral decision-making, it has been critiqued for the potential of unforeseen consequences and the loss of individual rights. A pharmaceutical company's decision-making process while considering manufacturing a costly life-saving medicine is an example of utilitarian reasoning.