



Religious Education Congress 2017

Fr. Robert Spitzer

The Culture of Life and Social Justice

Session 5-23

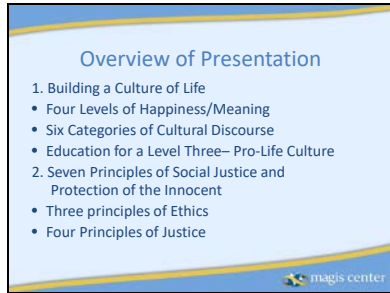
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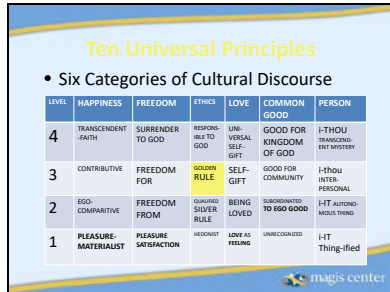
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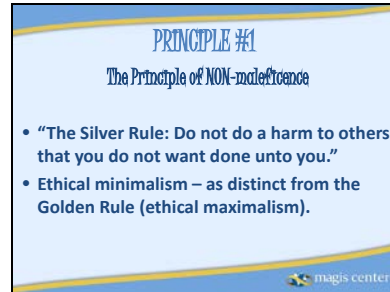
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Principle #2
The end does not justify the means

- Test the ends and the means.
- Utilitarianism versus principle based ethics.
- The Lesser of two evils.
- The principle of double effect.

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Principle #3
Persons should be evaluated according to full human potential

- Bartolome de Las Casas.
- Anything less than full human potential is mere historical accident.
- Anything less than full human potential is arbitrary.

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PRINCIPLE #4
"AN ONGEST LAWS NO LAW AT ALL."
St. Augustine
On The Free Choice of the Will
 Book 1 Chapter 5

- Justice is higher than the positive law.
- Justice is an intrinsic right – not an extrinsic right.

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Principle #6
The fundamentality of rights

- Resolving rights conflicts.
- The necessity criterion.
- Life, then liberty, then property/pursuit of happiness.

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Principle #7
Intrinsic limitations to freedom

- Locke – our freedom stops where others' rights begin.
- One person's freedom cannot become another person's burden (onerous duty).
- Euthanasia -- the affected populations – those with disabilities, depression, economic hardship, low self-esteem, and susceptible to pressure.
- Euthanasia – those who can affect those populations – family members, friends, physicians, insurance companies, and therapists.

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