

## Utilitarianism by John Stuart Mill

Quote:

*"No reason can be given why the general happiness is desirable, except that each person, so far as he believes it to be attainable, desires his own happiness."*

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn the principles of Utilitarianism from John Stuart Mill's perspective.

Book review:

To live happily is every person's dream, but how does one become happy? For John Stuart Mill, morality depends on how much happiness we can bring out by doing something. Acting selfishly doesn't give true happiness because believe it or not, all people need someone to share their life with. Happiness must always come in bundles meaning happiness is not just bound for a single person, but rather happiness must benefit all people in the world. God didn't create happiness but for one person, he envisioned a world where his creations live in peace and harmony, people sharing blessings to the needy so that everybody would be more or less happy. Acting unselfishly is the right thing to do because it is moral a moral act. Learning to help others can open a person's mind to so many things, things that he/she can only feel and appreciate, that is the feeling of happiness by helping other people. John Stuart Mill said that "There is nothing originally more desirable about money than about any heap of glittering pebbles. Its worth is solely that of the things which it will buy. The desire for other things than itself, which it is a means of gratifying". If you think intensely you would realize that in reality what John Stuart Mill said about money is true, I mean, what does now do to survive? A person when born is under the care of a parent. A lucky child who gets a chance to have a diploma both on high school and college will eventually look for a job and work. So what is his/her work for? To earn money, that is the aim of every person in the world. Money buys happiness, clothes, food, shelter, car, jewelry and etc. Heck! They even say that money can even buy you love. Asking a person likes Bill Gates who has made his way to the top and earning so much money that he himself cannot spent even if he dies. After he made his 40B, what did he felt? He felt a certain lacking. Bill Gates didn't feel the happiness that he expected money could give. In the end, Bill Gates found true happiness thru charity, together with his wife, Belinda, by sharing their wealth over all over the world that was the time Bill found the happiness he truly desires. People will realize in the end, self interest will not give you true happiness.

Lessons Learned:

I have learned that it is through respect for one another where peace and harmony is obtained. Also I have learned that equality is a very important aspect in life, it must prevail in our world so as to avoid conflicts that could lead to chaos. All happiness in the world lies in the hands of the people.

Integrative Questions:

- 1) What is the difference of a Utilitarianism and Hedonism Morality?
- 2) What is true happiness?
- 3) When does a person become truly happy?
- 4) Is pain an absence of happiness?
- 5) How can the world be happy?