

Philosophy 2300: Beginning Philosophy  
Spring 2019  
First homework assignment

Please type your answers and bring them to class on Mon, Feb 4th. **ALSO** please make your answers anonymous by putting your R# at the top of the page and **NOT** your name.

You are to answer the following questions from our book:

Question 1 (a, b, and c) and Question 2 in the “Notes and Questions” section at the end of the Nozick piece on page 1163.

Question 2 in the “Notes and Questions” section at the end of the Locke piece on page 1086.

Also answer the following questions:

John Stuart Mill begins *On Liberty* by introducing what is often called “the harm principle” (page 1087 of our book). What, if anything, does the harm principle have to say about the following cases? Be sure to explain your answers. Note that we are considering an arbitrary state here so current laws in the US or anywhere else are irrelevant (though you should assume that basic facts about the world remain as they are).

- 1) The government is considering requiring adults to wear seat belts while driving a car.
- 2) The government is considering requiring children under the age of four to be in a child safety seat while riding in a car.
- 3) The government is considering requiring any new car produced in the United States to get at least 25 miles to the gallon.
- 4) The government is considering banning the production, distribution, and use of cocaine.
- 5) The government is considering banning the production and sales of hardcore pornography.
- 6) The government is considering banning the production and sales of all handguns.