

Name: _____
Period: _____

Thomas Aquinas: The Doctrine of the Double Effect

What is the purpose of the Theory: _____

Thomas Aquinas: "Therefore, from the act of defending himself, a two-fold effect is able to follow: one the preservation of his own life, the other however the death of the aggressor."

Intent	Action	Consequence
		Consequence

"Nevertheless, it can happen that some act proceeding from a good intention, be rendered illicit, if it not proportioned to end. Therefore, if someone for the sake of defending his life uses more force than necessary, it will be illicit. If however he repels the violence moderately, it will be a licit defense."

Four conditions must be met if the action in question is to be morally permissible:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Intention vs. Foresight: Explain the difference in the space below

Example: A doctor determines that, in order to save a woman's life, he must perform a procedure on a pregnant woman with cancer. In doing so, the doctor aims to save the woman's life while foreseeing the death of the fetus.

Example: A hospice care nurse administers morphine to a patient dying painfully cancer. Although the drugs are an effective pain reliever, the patient's respiration will decrease and the death of the patient will be brought about sooner.

Example: A general decides to bomb a building housing member of a terrorist organization intent on killing Americans. There is however a boarding school adjacent to the building and will be destroyed in the attack.

Example: A pregnant women decides to undergo a procedure to help her skin look tanner. The procedure will be extremely risky to the child, but women does it anyway.

Example:

Example:
