## Framing

#### existence precedes essence – agents do not have essence when they enter the world. There is no human nature, so ethics begins with a projection of the self.

**Sartre** ((bracketed for gendered language) Jean-Paul Sartre, Jean-Paul Charles Aymard Sartre was a French philosopher, playwright, novelist, screenwriter, political activist, biographer, and literary critic. He was one of the key figures in the philosophy of existentialism and phenomenology, and one of the leading figures in 20th-century French philosophy and Marxism., "Existentialism is a Humanism", <http://homepages.wmich.edu/~baldner/existentialism.pdf>) SHS AK // shs bs

Atheistic existentialism, of which I am a representative, declares with greater consistency that if God does not exist there is at least one being whose existence comes before its essence, a being which exists before it can be defined by any conception of it. .... What do we mean by saying that existence precedes essence? We mean that [hu]man first of all exists, encounters [the]mself, surges up in the world – and defines [the]mself afterwards. If man as the existentialist sees him is not definable, it is because to begin with he is nothing. He[they] will not be anything until later, and then [t]he[y] will be what [t]he[y] makes of [themselves] himself. Thus, there is no human nature, because there is no God to have a conception of it. [Hu]man simply is. Not that he is simply what he conceives himself to be, but he is what [t]he[y] wills, and as he conceives himself after already existing – as he wills to be after that leap towards existence. Man is nothing else but that which he makes of himself. That is the first principle of existentialism. And this is what people call its “subjectivity,” using the word as a reproach against us. But what do we mean to say by this, but that man is of a greater dignity than a stone or a table? For we mean to say that man primarily exists – that [hu]man is, before all else, something which propels itself towards a future and is aware that it is doing so. [Hu]man is, indeed, a project which possesses a subjective life, instead of being a kind of moss, or a fungus or a cauliflower. Before that projection of the self nothing exists; not even in the heaven of intelligence: man will only attain existence when he is what he purposes to be. Not, however, what he may wish to be. For what we usually understand by wishing or willing is a conscious decision taken – much more often than not – after we have made ourselves what we are. I may wish to join a party, to write a book or to marry – but in such a case what is usually called my will is probably a manifestation of a prior and more spontaneous decision.

#### The agent constructs ethics and normativity through its actions and decisions – external principles fail because of an agent’s individuality.

**Sartre 2** (Jean-Paul Sartre, Jean-Paul Charles Aymard Sartre was a French philosopher, playwright, novelist, screenwriter, political activist, biographer, and literary critic. He was one of the key figures in the philosophy of existentialism and phenomenology, and one of the leading figures in 20th-century French philosophy and Marxism., No Date, "Existentialism is a Humanism", <http://homepages.wmich.edu/~baldner/existentialism.pdf>) SHS AK // shs bs

The existentialist, on the contrary, finds it extremely embarrassing that God does not exist, for there disappears with Him all possibility of finding values in an intelligible heaven. .... For if indeed existence precedes essence, one will never be able to explain one’s action by reference to a given and specific human nature; in other words, there is no determinism – man is free, [Hu]man is freedom. Nor, on the other hand, if God does not exist, are we provided with any values or commands that could legitimize our behavior. Thus we have neither behind us, nor before us in a luminous realm of values, any means of justification or excuse. – We are left alone, without excuse. That is what I mean when I say that man is condemned to be free. Condemned, because he did not create himself, yet is nevertheless at liberty, and from the moment that he [one] is thrown into this world he is [they are] responsible for everything [t]he[y] does. .... As an example by which you may the better understand this state of abandonment, I will refer to the case of a pupil of mine, who sought me out in the following circumstances. His father was quarreling with his mother and was also inclined to be a “collaborator”; his elder brother had been killed in the German offensive of 1940 and this young man, with a sentiment somewhat primitive but generous, burned to avenge him. His mother was living alone with him, deeply afflicted by the semi-treason of his father and by the death of her eldest son, and her one consolation was in this young man. But he, at this moment, had the choice between going to England to join the Free French Forces or of staying near his mother and helping her to live. He fully realized that this woman lived only for him and that his disappearance – or perhaps his death – would plunge her into despair. He also realized that, concretely and in fact, every action he performed on his mother’s behalf would be sure of effect in the sense of aiding her to live, whereas anything he did in order to go and fight would be an ambiguous action which might vanish like water into sand and serve no purpose. .... Consequently, he found himself confronted by two very different modes of action; the one concrete, immediate, but directed towards only one individual; and the other an action addressed to an end infinitely greater, a national collectivity, but for that very reason ambiguous – and it might be frustrated on the way. At the same time, he was hesitating between two kinds of morality; on the one side the morality of sympathy, of personal devotion and, on the other side, a morality of wider scope but of more debatable validity. He had to choose between those two. What could help him to choose? Could the Christian doctrine? No. Christian doctrine says: Act with charity, love your neighbor, deny yourself for others, choose the way which is hardest, and so forth. But which is the harder road? To whom does one owe the more brotherly love, the patriot or the mother? Which is the more useful aim, the general one of fighting in and for the whole community, or the precise aim of helping one particular person to live? Who can give an answer to that a priori? No one. Nor is it given in any ethical scripture. .... If values are uncertain, if they are still too abstract to determine the particular, concrete case under consideration, nothing remains but to trust in our instincts. That is what this young man tried to do; and when I saw him he said, “In the end, it is feeling that counts; the direction in which it is really pushing me is the one I ought to choose. If I feel that I love my mother enough to sacrifice everything else for her – my will to be avenged, all my longings for action and adventure then I stay with her. If, on the contrary, I feel that my love for her is not enough, I go.” But how does one estimate the strength of a feeling? The value of his feeling for his mother was determined precisely by the fact that he was standing by her. I may say that I love a certain friend enough to sacrifice such or such a sum of money for him, but I cannot prove that unless I have done it. I may say, “I love my mother enough to remain with her,” if actually I have remained with her. I can only estimate the strength of this affection if I have performed an action by which it is defined and ratified. But if I then appeal to this affection to justify my action, I find myself drawn into a vicious circle. In other words, feeling is formed by the deeds that one does; therefore I cannot consult it as a guide to action. And that is to say that I can neither seek within myself for an authentic impulse to action, nor can I expect, from some ethic, formulae that will enable me to act. You may say that the youth did, at least, go to a professor to ask for advice. But if you seek counsel – from a priest, for example you have selected that priest; and at bottom you already knew, more or less, what he would advise.

#### Freedom for subject formation necessitates letting others engage in self-creation simultaneously.

**Manzi 13** (Yvonne Manzi, 1-23-2013, accessed on 11-6-2020, E-International Relations, "Jean-Paul Sartre: Existential “Freedom” and the Political", <https://www.e-ir.info/2013/01/23/jean-paul-sartre-existential-freedom-and-the-political/>) SHS AK // shs bs

Having acknowledged Sartre’s focus on subjectivity, and having noted that his focus is entirely on the individual and the ‘wrongness’ of the imposition of outside values upon the individual, one wonders how it is possible for society to continue and for a community to maintain itself. In Existentialism and Humanism,[25] Sartre seems to introduce a vague idea of community. “In willing freedom we discover that it depends entirely upon the freedom of others” and he adds that “I cannot make liberty my aim unless I make that of others equally my aim” (2007, 62). This seems to allow the idea that therefore humans will act in solidarity with each other in spite of a lack of transcendental[26] values. In Being and Nothingness he explains this further and states that we have a responsibility towards our freedom and the freedom of others. By responsibility, he means “consciousness of being the incontestable author of an event or of an object” (1943, 553). Because an individual is absolutely free, when he makes a choice he becomes that choice and that choice becomes him. The changes he makes in the world because of that choice also become him. In Sartre’s words, “what happens to me happens through me”[27] and as a for-itself, I must “wholly assume the situation with the proud consciousness of being the author of it” (Ibid, 554). An example of this is war – if I am born into a war, I am born into a situation and this situation is what I am. I then have to make choices which I am wholly responsible for. If I choose to fight in the war as opposed to desertion or suicide, I have chosen to continue this war, and this war becomes mine.[28] This is what Sartre means when he claims that humans are responsible for both their own and others’ freedom.

#### Thus the standard is consistency with existential freedom. Impact calc: because normativity is generated internally, agents must have the freedom to self-create unimpeded – promotion of self-creation is good and the opposite isn’t.

#### Prefer additionally:

#### [1] Performativity – only freedom is constitutive to human subjecthood and any moral theory because the act of adopting an ethical framework or developing and making arguments presupposes the ability to radically choose.

#### [2] External theories fail because we cannot guide actions without understanding the particular circumstance of every agent. Benhabib.

[Benhabib, Seyla. "The Generalized and the Concrete Other: The Kohlberg-Gilligan Controversy and Feminist Theory." Praxis International. 1986. Pg. 38-60.] SHS ZS.

**It is no longer plausible to maintain** that such **a standpoint can universalize** adequately. Kohlberg views the veil of ignorance not only as exemplifying reversibility but universalizability as well. This is the idea that “we must be willing to live with our judgment or decision when we trade places with others in the situation being judged” (Kohlberg, 1981: 197). But the question is, which situation? **Can moral situations be individuated independently of our knowledge of the agents involved** in these situations, of their histories, attitudes, characters, and desires? **Can I describe a situation as one of arrogance or hurt pride without knowing** **something about you** as a concrete other? **Can I know how to distinguish between a breach of confidence and a harmless slip of the tongue, without knowing your history and** your **character**? **Moral situations**, like moral emotions and attitudes, **can only be individuated if they are evaluated in light of our knowledge of the history of the agents involved in them**. While every procedure of universalizability presupposes that “like cases ought to be treated alike” or that I should act in such a way that I should also be willing that all others in a like situation act like me, **the most difficult aspect of any such procedure is to know what constitutes a “like” situation** or what it would mean for another to be exactly in a situation like mine. **Such a process of reasoning**, to be at all viable, **must involve the viewpoint of the concrete other**, for situations, to paraphrase Stanley Cavell, do not come like “envelopes and golden finches,” ready for definition and description, “nor like apples ripe for grading.”29 When we morally disagree, for example, we do not only disagree about the principles involved; very often we disagree because what I see as a lack of generosity on your part you construe as your legitimate right not to do something; we disagree because what you see as jealousy on my part I view as my desire to have more of your attention. **Universalistic moral theory** **neglects** such **everyday, interactional morality and assumes that the public standpoint of justice**, and our quasi-public personalities as right-bearing individuals, are the center of moral theory. Kohlberg emphasizes the dimension of ideal role-taking or taking the viewpoint of the other in moral judgment. Because he defines the other as the generalized other, however, he perpetrates one of the fundamental errors of Kantian moral theory. **Kant’s error was to assume that** I, as **a pure** **rational agent** reasoning for myself, **could reach a conclusion that would be acceptable for all at all times and places**.31 In Kantian moral theory, moral agents are like geometricians in different rooms who, reasoning alone for themselves, all arrive at the same solution to a problem. Following Habermas, I want to name this the “monological” model of moral reasoning. Insofar as he interprets ideal role-taking in the light of Rawls’s concept of a “veil of ignorance,” Kohlberg as well sees the silent thought process of a single self who inaginatively puts himself in the position of the other as the most adequate form of moral judgment. I conclude that a definition of the self that is restricted to the standpoint of the generalized other becomes incoherent and cannot individuate among selves. **Without assuming the standpoint of the concrete other, no coherent universalizability test can be carried out,** **for we lack the necessary epistemic information to judge my moral situation to be “like” or “unlike” yours.**

#### [3] Inescapability – attempting to not engage in self-creation is an action of self-creation, as all actions continuously construct one’s identity. Moral theories require bindingness – otherwise they could be opted out of and would fail to generate obligations.

#### [4] Compatibility – All theories are compatible with and concede the validity of existentialism insofar as the choice to follow a theory is a commitment to radical freedom.

**Sartre 3** ((bracketed for gendered language) Jean-Paul Sartre, Jean-Paul Charles Aymard Sartre was a French philosopher, playwright, novelist, screenwriter, political activist, biographer, and literary critic. He was one of the key figures in the philosophy of existentialism and phenomenology, and one of the leading figures in 20th-century French philosophy and Marxism., "Existentialism is a Humanism", <http://homepages.wmich.edu/~baldner/existentialism.pdf>) SHS AK

Our point of departure is, indeed, the subjectivity of the individual, and that for strictly philosophic reasons. .... And at the point of departure there cannot be any other truth than this, I think, therefore I am, which is the absolute truth of consciousness as it attains to itself. Every theory which begins with man, outside of this moment of self-attainment, is a theory which thereby suppresses the truth, for outside of the Cartesian cogito, all objects are no more than probable, and any doctrine of probabilities which is not attached to a truth will crumble into nothing. In order to define the probable one must possess the true. Before there can be any truth whatever, then, there must be an absolute truth, and there is such a, truth which is simple, easily attained and within the reach of everybody; it consists in one’s immediate sense of one’s self. In the second place, this theory alone is compatible with the dignity of [hu]man, it is the only one which does not make man into an object. All kinds of materialism lead one to treat every [hu]man including oneself as an object – that is, as a set of pre- determined reactions, in no way different from the patterns of qualities and phenomena which constitute a table, or a chair or a stone. Our aim is precisely to establish the human kingdom as a pattern of values in distinction from the material world. .... .... What is at the very heart and center of existentialism, is the absolute character of the free commitment, by which every [hu]man realizes hi[the]mself in realizing a type of humanity – a commitment always understandable, to no matter whom in no matter what epoch – and its bearing upon the relativity of the cultural pattern which may result from such absolute commitment.

#### [5] Consequentialism fails – A] Induction fails – 1. saying that induction works relies on induction itself because it assumes that past trends will continue, which means it’s circular and unjustified 2. It assumes specific causes of past consequences which can’t be verified as the actual cause B] Butterfly effect - every action has infinite stemming consequences so it is impossible to evaluate an action based off them; one government policy could end up causing nuclear war in a million years. C] Aggregation is impossible – pleasure and pain vary from person to person; we have no idea how many headaches equal a migraine

#### [6] Motivation – people are internally motivated to follow an existentialist theory – which means they will understand the basis behind their actions compared to other transcendent principles.

**De Beauvoir** (bracketed for gendered language) [Simon de Beauvoir. “The Ethics of Ambiguity.” Lyle stuart Inc. 1948. Translated by Bernard Frechtman.] SHS ZS/AK recut

The first implication of such an attitude is that the genuine [hu]man will not agree to recognize any foreign absolute. When a man projects into an ideal heaven that impossible synthesis of the for-itself and the in-itself that is called God, it is because he wishes the regard of this existing Being to change his existence into being; but if he agrees not to be in order to exist genuinely, he will abandon the dream of an inhuman objectivity. He will understand that it is not a matter of being right in the eyes of a God, but of being right in his [one’s] own eyes. Renouncing the thought of seeking the guarantee for his existence outside of [oneself] himself, he [one] will also refuse to believe in unconditioned values which would set themselves up athwart his freedom like things. Value is this lacking-being of which freedom makes itself a lack; and it is because the latter makes itself a lack that value appears. It is desire which creates the desirable, and the project which sets up the end. It is human existence which makes values spring up in the world on the basis of which it win be able to judge the enterprise in which it will be engaged. But first it locates itself beyond any pessimism, as beyond any optimism, for the fact of its original springing forth is a pure contingency. Before existence there is no more reason to exist than not to exist. The lack of existence can not be evaluated since it is the fact on the basis of which all evaluation is defined. It can not be compared to anything for there is nothing outside of it to serve as a term of comparison. This rejection of any extrinsic justification also confirm the rejection of an original pessimism which we posited at the beginning. Since it is unjustifiable from without, to declare from without that it is unjustifiable is not to condemn it. And the truth is that outside of existence there is nobody. Man exists. For him [human] it is not a question of wondering whether his presence in the world is useful, whether life is worth the trouble of being lived. These questions make no sense. It is a matter of knowing whether [t]he[y] wants to live and under what conditions.

## Offense

#### I defend the resolution as a general principle to promote existential freedom. PICs don’t negate because general principles tolerate exceptions.

#### First, core existential values emphasize radical freedom which materializes in the form of commitment to a cause. Nurbudhiati 05

[Yoan Nurbudhiati, 2015, <http://jurnalvivid.fib.unand.ac.id/index.php/vivid/article/view/38>]

Existentialism is one of philosophical schools which mainly focus on an individual as the master of himself, resisting the outside pressure of mass society which attempts in creating standardize human being. The concept of Freedom and Authenticity by Jean Paul Sartre is able to explain the constant attempt of Scout’s rebellion to the strict authorities. In Being and Nothingness Sartre presents his notion of freedom as the act of making choices, and indeed not being able to avoid making choices. Sartre’s conception of choice can best be understood by reference to an individual’s original choice. He asserts in his book Existentialism is a Humanism that "...there is no determinism— man is free, man is freedom." (2007:29). Freedom in Sartre’s opinion is not merely freedom to do something. One is free when [they] he succeeded in acknowledging his consciousness that something is lacking in [their] his life, which triggered him to make a strong purpose of himself and choose to commit something regarding to that matter.

#### A] Workers’ strikes provide a sense of radical freedom from the ability to create meaning via a commitment to a movement. A strike may be the commitment of the worker to the thing that is lacking in their life.

#### B] Government endorsement of the strike is thus good, because it encourages conditions for radical freedom.

#### Second, discouraging strikes limits the worker to being only defined as one, putting limits on the capability of workers to self-create. Strikes allow an identity of the self because workers are able to distinguish themselves from companies that try to categorize them as laborers.

#### Third, strikes challenge the dynamic of the workplace when employers take control of the worker, limiting their ability to self-create. Gourevitch 16:

[Gourevitch, Alex. "Quitting work but not the job: Liberty and the right to strike." *Perspectives on Politics* 14.2 (2016): 307. Yoaks] shs bs

So the point about structural domination was that workers might be forced to make a variety of explicit concessions on any number of issues—wages, hours, conditions, stultifying jobs. But the point about personal domination in the workplace is that the contract also seems to involve the tacit concession of generic control over a further set of unknown issues. The problem from the standpoint of contract theory is that the contract itself cannot adequately explain why this power is assumed to devolve to the employer nor why law should support this assumption. At most, we can only say that the worker agreed to give up this control, not that she in any way agreed to the various decisions about her work. Usually, however, we do not think a human being has a right to such blanket alienation of her liberty. In the case of work, the only reason supporting that worker’s alienation of control as authoritative seems to be that the worker sold her property—her labor-power—and therefore has no right to control that property for the duration of the work (within the reasonable boundaries of protective labor legislation) or that she owes obligations of deference to the employer. As we have seen, workers resist these accounts on the grounds that their capacity to labor is not a commodity at all. Or at least, labor-power cannot operate as a commodity in this case because a crucial feature of the sale of property —separability of the seller’s will from the commodity sold —is impossible. Therefore whatever the status the labor contract has, the authority relations of the workplace itself cannot legitimately be derived from the contract—at least not from the contract conceived as a sale of property. Workers nevertheless find themselves in a world in which employers do legally possess this arbitrary authority. The strike is, again, one way of challenging this authority by attacking the idea that, since they appear like sellers of their capacity to labor, workers may be treated as subordinates. The strike is a way of pressing the claim that workers, too, should exercise control rather than submit passively to managerial prerogatives. There are many historical examples of resistance to this kind of personal domination, such as “control strikes,” strikes over the introduction of new technology, and even strikes over seemingly lesser issues like “abolition of the luncheon privilege.” 74 The general point being that strikes that target decisions usually falling under the domain of “core of entrepreneurial control” are not just about instrumental considerations regarding compensation and conditions but about resisting the very logic of contract and property that supports the manager’s authority in the first place.75

## UV

#### 1] 1AR Theory – a] the aff gets it because otherwise the 1NC could engage in unchecked, infinite abuse which outweighs anything else, b] it’s drop the debater because the 2AR is too short to win a shell AND substance so theory can only check abuse for the aff if it’s a win condition, c] no neg RVI because otherwise they could dump on the shell for 6 minutes and get away with anything by sheer brute force, d) Aff theory first – it’s a much larger strategic loss because 1min is ¼ of the 1AR vs 1/7 of the 1NC which means there’s more abuse if I’m devoting a larger fraction of time.

#### 2] Permissibility affirms:

#### A] Dictionary.com defines “ought”: as a verb “used to express justice, moral rightness, or the like” and “wrong” as “not in accordance with what is morally right or good” – proving something isn’t wrong means it’s right.

#### B] We don’t have to justify doing morally neutral things like drinking water

#### 4] Presumption affirms:

#### A] We always default to assuming something true until proven false – if I told you my name is David, you would believe me.

#### B] Affirming is harder. Prefer an empirical analysis – it accounts for all possible factors

**Shah 20** Sachin Shah [debater who analyzes topic stats] February 13, 2020, “A Statistical Analysis of Side-Bias on the 2020 January-February Lincoln Douglas Debate Topic by Sachin Shah” <http://nsdupdate.com/2020/a-statistical-analysis-of-side-bias-on-the-2020-january-february-lincoln-douglas-debate-topic-by-sachin-shah/?fbclid=IwAR2P0AZqQtSiwMZlCpia-Fy1zFOdHn6JrGtcYgGulqeimd-V0a1xbaIMYYs>

This analysis is statistically rigorous and relevant in several aspects: (A) The p-value is less than the alpha. (B) The data is on the current January-February topic, meaning it’s relevant to rounds these months [2]. (C) The data represents a diversity of debating and judging styles across the country. (D) This analysis accounts for disparities in debating skill level. (E) Multiple tests validate the results. It is also interesting to look at the trend over multiple topics. In the rounds from 142 TOC bid-distributing tournaments (September 2017 – 2020 YTD), the negative won 52.75% of ballots (p-value < 0.0001, 95% confidence interval [52.3%, 53.2%]). This suggests the bias might be structural, and not topic specific, as this data spans nine different topics [3]. Given a structural advantage for the negative, the affirmative may be justified in being granted a substantive advantage to compensate for the structural skew. This could take various forms such as granting the affirmative presumption ground, tiny plans, or framework choice. Whatever form chosen should be tested to ensure the skew is not unintentionally reversed.