

PHL 308  
ELEMENTARY  
ETHICS

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Lecture Fourteen

# Practical Uses of Philosophy

- Our fear of dementia
- Dworkin's radical policy recommendations
- Philosophical analysis as an aid to understanding
- Philosophical analysis as therapy?

# Dworkin's Case Studies

- Janet Atkins
- Mary
- Miss Ramirez's sister
- Mr. Lewis
- Margo

# Why so scary?

- Janet Atkins
- Ronald Dworkin
- Jeff
- Interests of the demented person
  - Experiential
  - Critical
- Identity assumptions
- Same assumptions in many right to die cases

# Advanced Directives

- Living wills
- Ubiquitous in modern medicine
- Respecting autonomy
  - Bad personal decisions
  - Bad medical decisions
- Medical autonomy
- Medical power of attorney

# Advance Directives & Dementia

- Margo
- Liquidate assets
- Do not prolong life
- Kill the patient
  - When indifferent
  - When no longer wants to die
- Is this legal?
- Is this moral?
- Dworkin's story