

1. Deontology is a moral theory that emphasizes adherence to moral rules or duties. It focuses on the inherent rightness or wrongness of actions, regardless of their consequences. In contrast, Ubuntu is an African philosophy that emphasizes the interconnectedness of human beings and the importance of community relationships. It emphasizes the need to treat others with respect and dignity and to promote social harmony.
2. Culture matters because it shapes individuals' values and beliefs, which can influence their decision-making. In the case of organ transplants, cultural beliefs about the body, death, and the afterlife can influence people's willingness to donate organs or accept transplants. Cultural factors can also influence how policymakers approach organ transplant policies, such as whether they prioritize individual autonomy or societal well-being.
3. In terms of decision-making regarding organ transplants, countries typically use a decision-making tree that considers various factors, such as medical need, donor availability, and ethical considerations. Nigeria's policy regarding organ transplants allows for organ donations from living donors who are genetically related to the recipient or have a close emotional relationship with them. Deceased donors are also allowed if they have given prior consent or if their family members agree to the donation.
4. Iran has a different policy regarding organ transplants. In 1988, Iran established a program that provides financial incentives to living organ donors, which has led to a significant increase in the number of transplants performed in the country. Iran also operates a centralized organ allocation system that prioritizes individuals based on medical need rather than ability to pay or social status.
5. The net effects of the differences in policies on individuals living in extreme poverty are complex and multifaceted. On the one hand, Nigeria's policy may limit access to organ transplants for those without genetic or emotional connections to potential donors, which could disproportionately impact those living in poverty who may have fewer social connections. On the other hand, Iran's policy of incentivizing organ donation may create an incentive for individuals living in poverty to sell their organs,

which could exploit their vulnerability and perpetuate poverty. Ultimately, the net effects will depend on a variety of factors, including the specific policies in place, the social and economic context, and individual motivations and circumstances.

## PART TWO

Title: Moral Dilemma Decision-Making Worksheet for Organ Transplants

Subtitle: Analyzing the Ethics of Legalizing the Sale of Organs

Instructions: Use the following decision tree to analyze the moral dilemma regarding making the sale of organ transplants legal. Follow each step in the decision-making process and record your answers in the space provided.

Identify the dilemma and describe it. Be specific and clear but brief and concise.

1. Dilemma: Should the sale of organ transplants be made legal?

Using your favorite browser, identify the relevant facts, including, but not limited to, the individuals involved, the actions taken or proposed, and any other pertinent details. Provide quality sources.

2. Relevant Facts: Organ trafficking is a major global issue, and many people are willing to sell their organs to escape poverty. The legal sale of organs is banned in most countries, including Nigeria, due to ethical concerns. However, the black market for organ trafficking is thriving, leading to a rise in the number of illegal and unsafe transplants.

Quality Sources:

- World Health Organization. (2019). The state of the international organ trade: a provisional picture based on integration of available information. [The Guardian](#). (2021).
- How organ trafficking preys on Syria's poor.

Identify the stakeholders. List all individuals or groups who might be affected by the decision and describe their relevant roles, interests, and concerns.

3. Stakeholders:

- Donors: Those who are willing to sell their organs, mostly people living in extreme poverty.
- Recipients: Those who are in need of an organ transplant to save their lives.
- Medical professionals: Surgeons, doctors, and nurses who perform the transplants.
- Government: Lawmakers and policymakers who make decisions about the legality of organ transplants.
- Society: Citizens who are affected by the overall ethical and moral climate of the country.

Identify the key moral principles of relevance in this dilemma.

4. Principles:

- Autonomy: The right of individuals to make decisions about their bodies.
- Beneficence: The obligation to do good and prevent harm.
- Non-maleficence: The obligation to not cause harm.
- Justice: The fair distribution of benefits and burdens in society.

Identify the alternative courses of action. List at least three alternatives, describe the potential consequences of each, identifying the top two with a rationale.

Alternative 1: Legalize the sale of organs, with regulation and oversight.

5. Consequences: This could provide a safe and regulated means for donors and recipients to participate in organ transplantation, reducing the demand for black market organs. However, it may also result in the exploitation of vulnerable populations, and the wealthy may have an unfair advantage in obtaining organs.

Alternative 2: Maintain the current ban on organ sales and focus on increasing awareness about organ donation and transplantation.

Consequences: This would prioritize the ethical concerns of not exploiting the poor and protect individuals from being coerced into selling their organs. However, it may result in a continued rise in black market transplants and limit the availability of organs for those in need.

Alternative 3: Allow the sale of organs but only for non-critical organs such as bone marrow or blood.

Consequences: This would provide a means for individuals to benefit financially from their non-critical organs, while protecting the ethical concerns of not exploiting the poor or risking their lives.

6. Apply the decision tree. Use the following decision tree to evaluate the top-two alternatives and choose the best course of action in light of the opportunity cost – the path not taken.

Decision Tree:

a. Does the action violate any existing laws or regulations? If yes, do not choose this alternative. If no, proceed to b.

b. Does the action violate any ethical principles or go against religious beliefs? If yes, consider when choosing this alternative. If no, proceed to c.

c. Does the action respect the rights and dignity of all stakeholders who are willing and fully informed? If yes, choose this alternative. If no, return to step 5 and consider other alternatives.

7. Choose the optimal course of action and provide a rationale. Based on your evaluation of the alternatives using the decision tree, choose the optimal course of action and provide a rationale for your decision.

Optimal Course of Action: Legalizing the sale of organ transplants, but with strict regulations and ethical guidelines in place.

Rationale: Legalizing the sale of organ transplants has the potential to save countless lives, as it will increase the number of available organs and reduce the number of deaths resulting from organ failure. However, it is important that the process is regulated and ethical guidelines are put in place to protect both donors and recipients. By doing so, we can ensure that the rights and dignity of all stakeholders are respected, and that the process is transparent and fair.

8. Reflect on the implications of your decision. Describe the potential consequences of your decision for the involved stakeholders and for the overall ethical/moral climate of the country. Reveal the ethical/moral principles and values that guided your decision and identify the trade-offs or compromises made. Comment on them.

Implications: Legalizing the sale of organ transplants will have significant implications for all stakeholders involved. For donors, it will mean the ability to sell their organs for financial gain, which could provide a much-needed source of income for those in poverty. For recipients, it will mean access to life-saving organs that they may not have otherwise been able to obtain. However, there are also potential risks associated with the process, including

the exploitation of donors, the potential for illegal organ trafficking, and the potential for wealthy individuals to bypass regulations and ethical guidelines in order to obtain organs. The ethical/moral principles and values that guided my decision include the principles of beneficence and non-maleficence, which require that we take action to do good and prevent harm, as well as the principle of justice, which requires that we treat all individuals fairly and equally. In making this decision, I recognize that there are trade-offs and compromises to be made, including the potential risks associated with the process. However, I believe that the potential benefits outweigh these risks, and that with proper regulation and ethical guidelines, we can ensure that the process is fair, transparent, and equitable for all involved.