**Worksheet 1**

**Phil 117**

**Due: Upload this worksheet to Canvas by October 15 class time**

**DIRECTIONS:**

Each student will be exploring one contemporary social-ethical issue in a U.S. context in a quarter-long project using the below provided list. Over the quarter, you will be exploring this issue on its own terms, and then identifying Aspects of a Jain Response to this particular issue.

* 1. Tolerance and social pluralism
* 2. War and/or militarism
* 3. Ecology and/or climate change
* 4. Animal rights
* 5. Gender equity
* 6. Right-to-die​(ability to control one’s own death)

We are using a U.S. context to narrow down the research parameters for future parts of this project. Certainly, sometimes a “U.S. context” will overlap or impact other nation states, governments, and citizens.

Because I will be endeavoring to ensure a more or less even distribution of students addressing each of the topics, Worksheet 1 asks you to identify your top two contemporary social-ethical issues. I will try to ensure students get one of their top two choices. Please briefly describe (in 4-6 sentences) the specific aspect of this issue that you would like to explore and your interest. For example:

* perhaps you want to explore the “Muslim travel ban” in Tolerance and social pluralism
* perhaps you want to explore the use of drones in U.S. military surveillance
* perhaps you want to explore soil erosion in southern California, or recent wildfires as an aspect of ecology/climate change
* perhaps you want to examine the treatment of chickens in U.S. agriculture in Animal Rights.
* perhaps you are interested in transgender access to bathrooms in Gender equity
* perhaps you want to explore the legality of suicide or views of Physician-assisted suicide in the U.S. (also called Physician aid-in dying) laws certain U.S. states as part of Right-to-die.

If you aren’t sure, I recommend just looking up the basic issues and see if you can identify a particular aspect that activates your interest. You can also look up local newspapers so you can even get closer to home.

**ACTIVITY**

Please fill out the below, being as specific as possible.

Your name:

* + 1. Your preferred issue #1:
* Your rationale (4-6 sentences)
* Is there any input I could provide to help you clarify your choice?
	+ 1. Your preferred issue #2:
* Your rationale (4-6 sentences)
* Is there any input I could provide to help you clarify your choice?