Philosophie, Ethik für Sek II

Filosofix

6. Violinist

3:09 Minuten

00:04 Just imagine, you wake up one day ...
... with the feeling that something isn't right.

00:16 *Where on earth am I?*

00:20 *Who is this man next to me?*

00:24 *And why are there tubes connecting me to him?!!*

00:34 A doctor explains your situation:
The man next to you is world famous. He is a virtuoso violinist.

00:45 But his life is in danger. He suffers from a fatal kidney disease. He has been waiting for blood for days, and time is running out.

00:59 But then, yesterday evening, a few of his biggest fans brought you to the hospital, because you are the only person who has the exact same blood type as he does.

01:09 Connecting your two circulatory systems is his last chance – otherwise he will die. You, and only you, can save his life.

01:20 *What?!!!*

01:22 All of a sudden you remember. Last night the violinist's fans kidnapped you and brought you to the hospital!
The doctor can hardly believe it. *They kidnapped you to save the violinist!*

01:38 You try to free yourself from the tubes. *Get me out of here!* But the doctor tries to explain to you: *as soon as you pull out the tubes, the violinist will die. You will kill him!*

01:49 *You can't do that!*

01:52 She tries to calm you down by assuring you that the therapy doesn't last for ever. Just nine months.

01:58 Then the violinist will be restored to perfect health, and you can go home.

02:05 So what do you do? Do you pull out the tubes?
Or do you stick it out in bed for nine months?
What's more important? The violinist's right to life...
… or your right to self-determination?

02:20 Some philosophers see a similar dilemma with the termination of unwanted pregnancies – pregnancies because contraception failed, for example, or even as the result of rape. The life of the unborn child depends on the pregnant woman, like the violinist's life depends on you.

02:39 And assuming the unborn child already has a right to life – the question is, which right is more important?

02:49 The foetus's right to life ...

02:51 … or the pregnant woman's right to self-determination?