

**Class Activity 1 – unpacking an ethically contentious scenario:**

An organization dedicated to reducing spam tries to get Internet service providers (ISPs) in an East Asian country to stop the spammers by protecting their email servers. When this effort is unsuccessful, the antispam organization puts the addresses of these ISPs on its blacklist. Many ISPs in the U.S. consult the blacklist and refuse to accept email from the blacklisted ISPs. This action has two results. First, the amount of spam received by the typical email user in the U.S. drops by 25%. Second, tens of thousands of innocent computer users in the East Asian country are unable to send email to friends and business associates in the U.S.

**Questions:**

- a) Did the antispam organization do anything wrong?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- b) Did the ISPs that refused to accept email from the blacklisted ISPs do anything wrong?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- c) Who benefited from the organization's action?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- d) Could the organization have achieved its goals through a better course of action?

**Class Activity 2 – Social Contract Theory Scenario:**

Sam sells DVDs and has a database of customers and their demographic information. He sells them to third party mail-order companies. Some people don't mind it and even buy things from those companies. Some people are annoyed due to the excess "junk mail".

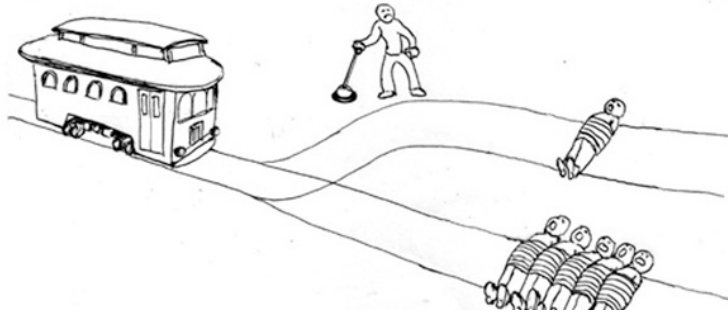
*Did Sam do an ethical thing?*

**Class Activity 3 – Kantian and Social Contract Theory scenario comparison:**

Recall the following two videos -- “The Trolley Problem” on The Good Place (5 min)

Part one <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vfldNV22LQM>

Part two [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWb\\_svTrcOg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWb_svTrcOg)



Now, like in Week 1, imagine the Trolley Problem” with a self-driving car. With this assumption, brainstorm how Kantianism and then Social Contract Theory would allow you to navigate the ethical dilemma. Would you get the same answer, or different answers? Provide rationale and justification for your answer.