Class Activity 1:

You are the senior software engineer at a startup company developing an exciting new mobile app that allows users to track their physical fitness, stress, and sleep on their smartphones.

Your company's sales department has led a major corporation to believe your product will be available next week; the corporation intends to deploy your mobile app to their userbase in a month's time. Unfortunately, at this point the app still contains quite a few bugs and some of the variables being tracked (like stress and sleep) are not sufficiently accurate. The leader of the testing group has reported that all of the known bugs appear to be minor, but it will take another month of testing for his team to be confident the product contains no catastrophic errors.

Because of the fierce competition in the mobile app industry as well as the proliferation of health apps, it is critical that your company be "first to market". To the best of your knowledge, a well-established company will release a similar app in a few weeks. If that product appears first, your start-up company will probably go out of business.

Questions:

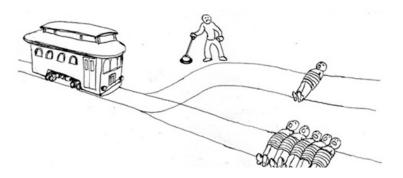
a) Should you recommend release of the product next week?

b) Analyze your answers above using both act utilitarianism and rule utilitarianism – does your act do any greater good; does your act follow a set of moral rules that promise greater good?

Class Activity 2:

Recall the following video -- "The Trolley Problem" on The Good Place, covered earlier in the class (5 min)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vfldNV22LQM



Now, like in Week 1, imagine the Trolley Problem" with a self-driving car. With this assumption, brainstorm how Kantianism would allow you to navigate the ethical dilemma. Would you get the same answer as the prior week, or something different now? Provide rationale and justification for your answer.