

NORMATIVE EXERCISE

REALIST NORMATIVE PERSPECTIVES

Different perspectives on how to govern under constraints when people fundamentally disagree

These perspectives agree there are normative restrictions on what the government can do

They disagree on what they are

THREE REALIST PERSPECTIVES

Pragmatic liberal

- ▶ Individual rights and toleration as a pragmatic solution to disagreements
- ▶ Individual rights restrict public policy

Pluralist communitarian

- ▶ Group rights and pluralism as a pragmatic solution to disagreements
- ▶ Group rights restrict public policy

Paretian utilitarian

- ▶ Only implement policies that make someone better off without making anyone worse off
- ▶ Individuals' status-quo wellbeing restricts public policy

QUESTIONS FOR GROUP DISCUSSIONS

1. From the perspective of the normative framework assigned to your group, construct what you consider to be the most compelling arguments in favor of each of the mandatory- and the voluntary-vaccine policies.
2. Suppose that everyone in the community accepted this normative framework. Why might they still disagree on what policy to implement? What are the key points of contention?
3. In light of the discussion above, where would you come down on this policy if you were working from your assigned normative framework.

PREPARE A 1-SLIDE PRESENTATION

Make a slide with **no more than three bullet points**

Based on your assigned framework,

- ▶ do you ultimately advise the mayor to implement the mandatory- or voluntary-vaccine policy?
- ▶ what do you consider to be the most compelling justification for your advice?

Put your slide in the Google Slide Deck for this class (link on Canvas)

Select a member of your group to present