

For EITNs, find articles (like the one above) that deal with ethical dilemmas. Doing a search by typing “ethics in the news” will yield a slew of results for you to choose from. It really isn't too difficult to find since ethics is all around us. I pulled this article to find issues that are not regular occurrences or are not black and white. My responses below are really brief but they are such to give you some insight as how to approach the assignment. Follow this format. Make sure that you include a link (to the article) in your response so that others can reference it for a broader understanding should they be intrigued or wish to engage you more.

<https://www.usnews.com/news/us/articles/2019-05-20/judge-parents-of-dead-west-point-cadet-can-use-his-sperm>

Aspect #1: His parents received court permission to have his sperm retrieved and frozen at the same time he underwent organ donation surgery, but the judge waited until last week to rule on whether they could attempt reproduction.

Possible response: Organ donation relieves pain, suffering and possible end-of-life realities for many people. There is a direct benefit and because we have made significant advancements in medicine and technology, we should extend the use of extracted sperm from the recently deceased to help those experiencing infertility. Utilitarianism is about maximizing the greater good after all.

Possible question: Do not ask if your topic is ethical or not.
What weight should be given to a loved one's request for sperm donation?

Aspect #2: And while Colangelo left the decision of what to do with Zhu's sperm up to his family, he noted there may be other obstacles including reluctance of some doctors to assist for ethical reasons.

Possible Response: Doctors and other medical professionals have some protections shielding them from participating in certain medical procedures. Despite having taken an oath, sperm donation does not warrant the urgency that a heart transplant does. There are no moral obligations here. No one will lose their life if sperm is not donated to a spouse/significant other or saved for a surrogate. There are also costs associated with these procedures which can become an issue of who can afford it.

Question: Why should doctors be excused from this specific procedure? If all “life” has value, where do we draw the line when it comes to sperm and its potential for life?