The Debate over Utilitarianism

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Humans have been taught various ways to lead their lives; some of them have been guided by the religion, some have been taught by theology, and there are some that have been shown by philosophy. There are a number of theories in philosophy that guide an individual about what is right and wrong (Lyons, 2015). These theories are the beliefs that guide a person how to lead their lives in a moral and ethical way, which is why these theories are also known as moral theories. One of the most popular theories is utilitarianism.

Utilitarianism is one of the most popular and influential moral theories. It is one of the most popular forms of consequentialism. The theory defines that no matter whether the action is morally right or wrong, if its outcome is positive and benefits a large population, it is morally and ethically right. Utilitarianism explains that the most ethical choice is the one that will bring out the greatest good for a large number of people. Thus it can be said that utilitarianism focuses on the greater good and the benefit of masses.

Although the theory focusses on benefit at a large level, still there are some limitations that need to be implied while using the theory of utilitarianism. This theory cannot be applied anywhere and in all the cases (Fabian, & Fordyce, 1990). The most logical explanation of this is that people fail most of the time in judging what is best for them and what is not. They even cannot recognize what is best for society or the people around them. This is where the problem arises, and the concept of utilitarianism becomes confused. The best explanation of the limitations of utilitarianism is that the experiment of survival lottery.

**References**

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