

Theories of Conflict

Conceptions of Self and Morality in Relation to Moral Choice*

A Morality of Justice

- Individuals defined as *separate / objective* in relation to others
- Morality of *justice as fairness* grounded in the *duty and obligation of their roles*
- Understands relationships as *reciprocity between separate individuals* (that is, how to treat another considering how one wants to be treated)
- Moral problems generally construed as *issues, decisions or conflicting claims between self and others* (including society)
- Moral problems are *resolved by invoking impartial rules, principles or standards*

A Morality of Response and Care

- Individuals defined as *connected in relation to other*
- Morality of *care* grounded on an *understanding of relationships as response to another*
- Understands relationships as *response to others in their own terms*
- Moral problems are generally construed as *issues of relationships* or of response, *resolved through the activity of care*
- Moral problems are addressed by considering *maintaining connections of interdependent individuals to one another*, promoting the welfare of others, preventing others= harm or relieving the suffering of other

*Lyons, Nona Plessner, "Two Perspectives: On Self, Relationships, and Morality" in Gilligan, Ward & Taylor *Mapping the Moral Domain* (1988)