

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Listed below are abstracts of student-faculty collaborative work presented at regional, national, and international conferences.

Janine Fela

(Jo Carney, Faculty Sponsor)

"By God's Grace": A Comparative Analysis of Straparola's "The Pig Prince" and England's King Henry VIII

Presented at the 31st Annual Plymouth State University Medieval and Renaissance Conference, Plymouth, NH, April 16-17, 2010

Fairy tales explore taboo and provocative subjects by cloaking them in animal imagery and fantastic transformations. There are striking parallels between the life of England's King Henry VIII and the title character in Straparola's fairy tale, "The Pig Prince." The story explores arranged marriages, the nobility's preoccupation with producing heirs, the disposability of female consorts, and a king's notoriously volatile temper. King Henry VIII, of course, was known for his six marriages, and in his later years, for his hot-blooded disposition. Tales such as Straparola's, which concern procreation, power disparities, and arranged marriages to "beastly" mates are didactic as well as entertaining. Contextualized by critical works by Maria Tatar and Jack Zipes and historical accounts by Alison Weir and Jasper Ridley, my paper traced connections between arranged marriages and the fairy tale's depiction of "beauties and beasts." Straparola's retelling of true events reflects on the upbringing of royal heirs and the detrimental effects of allowing female consorts too much power. Women were expected to submit upon entering into marriage.

Divya Sharma

(John Sisko, Faculty Sponsor)

Deontological Ethics vs. Utilitarianism

Presented at Northeast Regional Honors Conference, Harrisburg, PA, April 8-11, 2010

In act consequentialism, an act is morally permissible if the net amount of "good" that results is greater than that of the other possible actions under consideration for that circumstance. The theory that epitomizes this concept is classic utilitarianism, which claims that actions that are beneficial for the majority of people are morally correct. Deontological ethics, on the other hand, claims that acts are morally permissible based on the action and the perpetrator's intentions rather than the consequences. Therefore, an act that results in "bad" consequences may be considered morally acceptable. The trolley problem presents a compelling case to explore these two ethical approaches. Deontological ethics, in contrast to utilitarianism, provides a more sound resolution to the trolley problem.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC LISTINGS

Listed below are citations of published student-faculty collaborative scholarship. The authors whose names are underlined are students.

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Cucinotta, Michael J., LeBlon, Courtney E., Rahimi, Nima S., and Paliwal, Manish. "A New External Fixator Design for Femoral Fracture Reduction." *American Society of Mechanical Engineers Journal of Medical Devices*, 2 (2) June 2008

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