

Reading Questions for September 13

These questions cover an article by Hugh LaFollette titled “Licensing Parents”. The answers do not have to be turned in. You will probably have to read more than once to get the answers.

*Background:*

This week we’re looking at whether everyone should be allowed to have kids. For today’s class, we’re looking at an article which argues that we should restrict who is allowed to have kids.

*Question:*

1. In his section “Regulating Potentially Harmful Activities” (181-6) LaFollette offers an argument in favor of licensing parents. Reconstruct the argument.
2. In the next section, “Theoretical Objections to Licensing” (186-89), LaFollette considers some theoretical objections to licensing. What are the objections and how does he respond. What do you think; is he right? Why?
3. In the final section, “Practical Objections to Licensing” (190-7), LaFollette considers some practical objections to licensing. You don’t have to read all of them, but skim through and find the one you think is best. What is this objection? How does he respond? What do you think; is he right? Why?