

Reading Questions for April 10

These questions cover a reading by G J M Abbarno called “Homelessness”. The answers do not have to be turned in. You will probably have to read more than once to get the answers.

*Background:*

We are spending this week talking about what duties we have towards the homeless. Today we’ll look at a general introduction to the topic. On Wednesday, we’ll focus in on medical testing on the homeless and thus tie this week’s discussion with our previous discussion on human experimentation. Then, on Friday, we’ll look at homelessness here in Manhattan and what (if anything) you all should do about it.

*Questions:*

1. In the first four pages (up to the section titled “The Moral Status of Homelessness” on page 603), Abbarno defines homelessness, offers some facts about who the homeless are and about how homelessness has shifted and about the causes of homelessness. What are some of the key facts he offers? How did what he said fit with your previous conception of homelessness?
2. In the rest of the article, Abbarno raises a number of moral issues and arguments concerning homelessness. What are some of the issues and arguments he raises? What do you think about them and why?