

Introduction to Philosophy

Extra Credit #1: Chimp Fights and Trolley Rides

Due Date

Sunday, September 11th, at the beginning of class.

Late extra credit assignments will *not* be accepted unless you and I agree on a reasonable accommodation *prior* to this due date.

Instructions

Your write-up should be 250–300 words in length and conform to the course’s “General Technical Requirements for Formatting Papers”. This should be submitted as a computer-type-written hardcopy directly to me.

This extra credit assignment has you listen to a podcast, available on the course website, and do a short write-up addressing some questions about it.

Topic

Listen to the *Radio Lab* episode about “Chimp Fights and Trolley Rides”, and answer the following questions.

Questions

1. How do you answer the two trolley questions? Do you see any tension between your two answers?
2. How does Dr. Joshua Greene explain why most people answer the trolley problem questions the way they do? Do you think this explains how you answer the trolley questions? In general, do you find his explanation convincing? Why do you think people react the way they do to these questions?
3. What is the final puzzle presented (the one about the village and the crying child)? How do you answer this?