

The Lifeboat Game – A Morality Test

There's this cruise ship sailing from Britain to Australia (a nice long cruise). Halfway through the journey it sinks. During the panic and chaos of the sinking process you regain consciousness on some remaining debris with 15 other people. A lifeboat floats up to you all, but it can only support 10 people. Since you found the lifeboat you get to decide the 9 other people who will join you.

- 1) A Doctor, GP, who has an addiction to drugs and is very nervous (Male/60 years old)
- 2) A black Protestant Minister, (Male/27 years old)
- 3) A prostitute, but is an excellent nurse, she has already saved a drowning child and put him on another lifeboat (Female/37 years old)
- 4) A criminal. Charged with murder and can navigate the boat. (Male/37)
- 5) A mentally disturbed man, who carries important government secrets in his head (Male/41)
- 6) A law-abiding salesman. He sells automatic washing machines and is also a member of the Rotary Club. (Male/51)
- 7) A crippled boy, paralyzed since birth. He cannot use his hands and is dependant on others. (Male/8)
- 8) A housewife with two children at home (Female/23)
- 9) A Jewish restaurant owner, married with 3 children at home. (Male/40)
- 10) A Teacher considered one of the best in England. (Female/32)
- 11) A Catholic Nun, supervisor of a girl's school. (Female/46)
- 12) An unemployed man, formally a professor of literature. He has a great sense of humour and is a decorated soldier for his contribution in the last war and was in a concentration camp for 3 years. (Male/53)
- 13) An Irish man studying to be a pharmacist. (Male/23) And is married to...
- 14) An Irish woman, studying to be a nursery teacher. (Female/22)
- 15) An American, he is also a Neo-Nazi and thus hates the Jew. However, he has a large box of food which he will throw into the sea unless he goes into the lifeboat. (Male/20)

Rules

1. 6 of the above must be left off the lifeboat, and thus condemned to die in the water.
Choose who is saved and who is condemned, and explain your reasons for why they live or (supposedly) die.
2. Don't attempt to find holes in the hypothetical situation (e.g "Who would want to go to Australia?" "Nobody would be on a cruise because of the coronavirus!")
3. Whether you eventually arrive at a desert island or a civilised land is purely chance. Thus, you should prepare you choices for both outcomes.