

Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

Bachelor Thesis Opponent's Review
LAURA CANDIOTTO

Student's Name: KRYSTINA LEPINOVA

Thesis Title: MORAL JUSTIFICATION OF ORGAN SALE

Name of Thesis Supervisor: KAMILA PAKOVSKA

Name of Opponent's: LAURA CANDIOTTO

I. Formal criteria	Yes	Partly	No
1. Overall objective - the thesis corresponds to its assignment and content - the definition of the topic is appropriate and not too broad	X		
2. Methodical and systematic work - the text logically organised, with clear structure - the thesis is realised adequately	X		
3. Introduction and conclusion - Introduction properly introduces the aim and procedure of the thesis, previous research on the topic and the main literature - the conclusion properly summarises and evaluates the whole issue, formulates the contribution to the solution of the problem and the author's position	X		
4. The author has properly fulfilled all formal requirements for the bachelor thesis. - assignment, declaration, content, introduction, discussion, conclusion, resume in Czech and foreign language - an appropriate number of pages	X		

Verbal evaluation

The exposition is very clear and the thesis is well structured. The introduction is informative, clearly states the research question, and presents the structure of the thesis. The student carefully introduces the topics at the beginning of each chapter and provides a good summary of them at the end for connecting them to the following chapter. The conclusion summarises the thesis' achievements.

II. Content criteria	Yes	Partly	No
1. The thesis demonstrates the author's understanding of the subject.	X		
2. The coherence of ideas and the coherence of the text: - is satisfactory - the clarity of the argument and the soundness of the arguments or ideas is adequate	X		
3. The thesis is based on relevant sources and literature .	X		
4. Work with literature: - the thesis clearly demonstrates that the student has worked with academic literature and with the authors' ideas - the authors were cited (not only by reference to a note), compared, paraphrased and quoted - clearly distinguished his/her own ideas from those of individual authors	X		
5. The bachelor thesis is a philosophical text: - the author has demonstrated an informed and analytical engagement with concepts and ideas - the author's work did not consist of merely retelling a given topic or simply piecing together slogans, paraphrases or ideas - the work was not burdened with an unreasonable degree of historical, biographical or other non-philosophical data		X	

Verbal evaluation

The student reconstructs the debate in a very proficient way. She carefully assesses the positions presented and establishes useful comparisons among them. In doing so she proves her engagement with concepts and ideas. However, I would have expected to hear her answer to the research question after the engagement with the debate and thus prove her sense of authorship. This would have required formulating a thesis and arguing for it throughout the thesis. In the conclusion, she starts to reply to the research question but in a vague manner by referring to personal viewpoints on markets and society that influence our moral assessment of sale organs. This is the reason why I consider this thesis only partly a philosophical text. However, I still positively assess this thesis since it is a BA Thesis and the reconstruction, assessment, and engagement with the debate are excellently performed.

III. Language and graphic criteria	Yes	Partly	No
1. The work is free of grammatical and stylistic errors or other shortcomings (typos, unfinished sentences, etc.)	X		
2. The thesis is written in adequate academic language	X		
3. Terminology used in the text - informed understanding of terminology in the field and in the given topic - appropriate use of terminology and explanation of concepts	X		
4. References, citations and notes - satisfactory reference work - compliance with and consistency of citation standards - appropriate work with notes and footnotes	X		
5. Citation - the citation frequency is balanced - appropriate choice of citations	X		
6. Graphic criteria - Graphic design (font, content, chapter headings, paragraphs, line spacing, etc.) is satisfactory	X		

Verbal evaluation

There are only a few typos but the thesis is very well written in proper academic English.

IV. Literature used in the thesis	Yes	Partly	No
1. critical and appropriate choice of primary literature and sources	X		
2. critical and appropriate choice of secondary literature	X		
3. work with foreign language literature	X		

Verbal evaluation

The choice of employing three key sources from three different schools of thought (deontology, utilitarianism, and libertarianism) is successful and provide the thesis with a very good balance of difference of perspectives.

The secondary literature is entirely in English. The student proves to have understood the debate and be able to engage with it in a solid manner.

Additional recommendations:

Work interaction of the student and supervisor during the thesis preparation
(to be filled in by the supervisor):

Overall rating:

I recommend the thesis for defence: Yes

Proposed grade: **A (excellent)** – B – C (very good) – D – E (good) – F (fail)

Suggestions for discussion:

The most interesting part where the student takes a position more explicitly is in chapter 4 about the practice of altruistic donation. She comes back to the working definition of the difference between organ sale and organ donation by saying that organ sale is a similar practice to organ donation with the exception of money exchange taking place. However, this definition might seem too simplistic after her careful analysis of exploitation, commodification, and instrumentalization of body organs in chapter 1, for example. The reason is that it seems there is more than just paying for an organ in organ sale, for example there is a system of exploitation grounded on economical differences between rich countries that use poor countries as resources for organ sale. It would be interesting to discuss with the student the possibility of providing a new definition as a result of her engagement with the literature and ask her to try to develop her personal answer to the research question from there.

In Pardubice, date 17 May 2022

Opponent
Laura Candiotto