

Blood for sale

[Business](#)



Case study: Blood for sale Question 3 What are the contrasting ideals of the British and US blood systems? The contrasting ideal of blood systems in the United States and Britain is the commercialization aspect. While the American system is a mixture of donated blood through public health facilities and a commercialized supply through the private sector, the British system solely relies on donations through the National Health Services (Shaw, 2010).

Which system better promotes human freedom and respect for people, and blood supply?

The British system better promotes freedom and respect for people because of the value that it develops between the donor and the recipient, and the social independence that it has on the donor. This is contrary to the American system in which economic need may induce donation and reduce blood value to money's worth. The reduced value affects respect between the donor and the recipient. The British system similarly promotes blood supply better because it has no "economic and administrative" barriers that hinder quality and quantity of blood supply in the US system (Shaw, 2010, p. 87).

Question 5

Are Titmuss and Singer correct to suggest that buying and selling of blood reduces altruism?

The idea that buying and selling of blood reduces altruism is valid because buying and selling induce economic self-interest in donations instead of willingness to help others. This is contrary to the utilitarian intent of benefiting other members of the society (Ferrell, Fraedrich and Ferrell, 2009).

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Does knowing that you can sell blood makes you makes you less inclined donate your blood?

Knowing that blood can be commercialized reduces a person's willingness to donate blood since it limits blood's worth to the determined cost. A potential donor who holds higher value for blood than the market price will therefore not derive utility in donating blood, will be less motivated, and will not be willing to donate (Shaw, 2010).

Question 6

Assessment of Singer's idea that the right to sell blood does not threaten the formal right to give blood but is incompatible with the right to freely donate blood that cannot be valued

Singer's idea is true because the right to sell and the right to donate blood freely at no cash value are mutually exclusive and are determined by existence of consideration. Existence of consideration for example induces, automatically, demand and cash value for blood and eliminates the free will to donate blood that is needed at no cost (Shaw, 2010).

Existence of such a right

Such a right exists in a person's moral obligation to save life in circumstances where there is no blood in a reserve to save a life that in a critical condition and no capacity can avail blood to the patient (Fernando, 2010).

Question 7

Is increasing commercialization something to be applauded or condemned? Commercialization should be condemned due to its consequences that limit benefits to a few members of the society who can afford market prices. This will therefore risk lives of the majority who are not able to afford the

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commercialized commodities (Shaw, 2010).

Is it wrong to treat certain things as commodities?

It is wrong to treat certain things as commodities, especially if such things are very essential to human life. Such a treatment limits life to the value of commodities and implies that life can be valued while this is not the case (Shaw, 2010).

Question 8

Do you believe that we have the moral duty to donate blood? Rationale and circumstances

I believe that people have moral obligations to donate blood. Such a duty is derived from utilitarian ethics and rights theory that establishes a person's responsibility to ensure other people's well being and the freedom of choice. A circumstance in which a person needs blood and blood is not available therefore creates the moral duty to donate blood for saving the needy person's life (Fernando, 2010).

References

Ferrell, O., Fraedrich, J. and Ferrell, L. (2009). Business ethics 2009: Ethical decision making and cases. Mason, OH: Cengage Learning.

Shaw, C. (2010). Business ethics and corporate governance. New Delhi: Pearson Education India.

Fernando, W. (2010). Business ethics: A textbook with cases. Boston, MA: Cengage Learning.