

# Ethical thinking

[Philosophy](#)



## Ethical thinking

Baby Theresa was born in Florida in the year 1992 with anencephaly. Her parents knew that she only had few days to live and wished to donate her organs like the liver, kidney, eyes, and heart to other needy children.

However, Florida law prohibited organ transplant from live donors. At the time when baby Theresa died, her organs were in a bad state. In this context with Florida law prohibiting organ transplant from living donors, a number of professional ethicists adhered to traditional demands. The ethicists argued from different ethical theoretical viewpoints: Baby Theresa was being used as a way to meet other people's ends; it is immoral to kill so that another life can be saved; this baby's parents want it dead to use its organs to benefit other babies. I agree with Rachel claims that " the arguments in favor of transplanting Baby Theresa's organs seem stronger than the arguments against it" (Rachel 5). Transplanting the organs would help other babies without hurting baby Theresa.

If Theresa's organs were to be transplanted, it would actually benefit many children. Further, since Theresa has neither conscious life nor feelings, nothing that is done to her is harmful. Theresa's interests will not be abused because she has none. Her life is short and by killing her, no suffering or hardship would be imposed on her. Her preferences would not be ruined either. Basing on the interpretation of respect to life, nothing disrespectful is done to baby Theresa since she is not used simply as a means

People who argue that transplanting Theresa's organs is unethical should consider that brain death is as a criterion for pronouncing people as legally dead. When the brain stops functioning, there is no longer any anticipation for conscious life. No matter what is done, she would still die soon, while

<https://assignbuster.com/ethical-thinking/>

taking her organs would help a great deal in saving other children's lives.

Work Cited

Rachel, James. *The Elements of Moral Philosophy*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2011. Print.