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Q3

Best for an individual is not necessarily best for the society.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2019 · Essay · 125 marks · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- **Stake:** what serves one person can harm the common - and the reverse can crush a life
- **One stand:** the test is whether the private good can be universalised without wrecking the floor
- Move through consumption, tax, speech, ecology. Keep one honest counter
- Close on a widened we that still leaves a room for the person

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with stubble and a child's lungs. Stand:** universalise the private good, or don't.
- **Headings:** market, speech, state, ecology, counter.

Earn **Mill** or **Gandhi** once; **Ambedkar** on the counter.

Close on a test, not a sermon.

Note

This is a map, not the full 1,000-1,200 word essay.

Anecdote

A man burns stubble because it is cheapest for his field this week. The city chokes. Best for him; not for the child's lungs. The topic is that fork - individual reason that does not add up to a common life.

One stand

Neither saint nor selfishness as destiny. **Mill's** harm, **Gandhi's** trusteeship, a GST that funds a hospital: write the seam. Keep the counter: a crushing 'society' that eats the person.

Heading map**What the line is asking**

- **Individual best:** income, a match, a shortcut.
- **Society:** air, trust, a road, a language of fairness.
- Not always a clash - a vaccine is both. Name when it is a clash.

Market

- Plastic, groundwater, a fake degree. Private gain, public bill.

Speech / digital

- A rumour that helps my side. Best for the poster; poison for the street.

State

- **Tax, a helmet, a lockdown:** the common written as a rule.
- **Land acquisition:** society's project that can erase a household.

Ecology

- A river as a sewer because my drain is convenient.

The counter

A society that is 'best' by crushing a minority, a woman, a dissenter, is not society - it is a crowd. **Ambedkar:** the individual is not a gift to the village. The line forbids both the stubble fire and the mob.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** ask if the shortcut can be everyone's. Expand - this is only the map.

Facts & figures

Mill

Harm to others - the classic seam of private and public.

Gandhi

Trusteeship - my surplus is not only mine.

Ambedkar

The individual against a crushing 'social best'.

Art. 19 / 21

Speech and lungs - two publics that can collide.

GRAP / CAQM

Delhi air as the public bill of a private fire.

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