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Ethical Case Study  
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### ***The Right to Die***

\*Disclaimer: this situation is completely fictional\*

In an alternate universe, something magical occurs and the Earth of the past splits into two Earths. On one Earth, the population consists of all men and a singular woman. On the other Earth, the population consists of all women and a single man. The first Earth is facing a repopulation crisis, as no man can bear children. The second Earth has no population crisis as any woman can conceive and carry children through injections from stored sperm samples all over the world.

Grace is the one woman on the Earth populated by men. She has a strong fear of giving birth, as before the Earth's split she was an obstetrician and watched woman after woman die. In addition, her sister died giving birth to her second child, something which has also scared her for life. Due to this, she has made a promise to herself to never give birth.

To ensure the survival of the planet and thus, human life, the men of the world decide that Grace must give birth, despite her strong desire not to. The men also decide that any of her potential daughters would be required to give birth as well. She and her daughters would be required to give birth as many times as humanly possible in order to repopulate the dying Earth. Grace cannot try to hide, as eventually she will be hunted down.

Carlos is Grace's brother. Though Grace and Carlos were quite close, he and all the other men are aware of their fate if Grace dies. Carlos is deeply afraid of the human population being completely wiped out and is desperate to do anything to maintain it. He feels that as a member of the population, he has a responsibility to help capture Grace should she hide. As Grace's older brother, he feels as though he has an obligation to protect Grace from everyone else. However, he also feels as if it's a small price to pay to give birth so that the world may be repopulated and that Grace is being selfish in her refusal to do so.

Since Grace would rather die than be forced to have children, she wishes to do so. In fact, she learns that if she dies, she would be transported to the other reality and to the secondary Earth populated by all women and one man. However, if she dies, the men of her Earth will be unable to repopulate the Earth and will go extinct. Her departure would inevitably lead to the death of all human life on an entire planet. Without any other way to repopulate, the population of the world would diminish and diminish until there is not enough manpower to maintain the

world's agricultural, technological, and nuclear systems. Natural disaster, famine, disease, and radiation poisoning would be the final things to kill all men.

Since Grace cannot hide, she can either kill herself and join the other world or choose to go through childbirth. What is the most morally permissible thing for Grace to do?

ERFs

1. Is it morally permissible for Carlos to help hunt down Grace?
2. Would it be morally permissible for the man in the world of women to be forced to father children as well?
3. Is Grace's life worth an entire population?
4. Should the will of the majority ever take priority over the will of the minority? If so, when? If not, why not?