

Expanding the Circle of Morality

EthicsMatters.net

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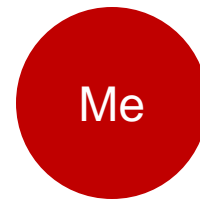
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Introduction

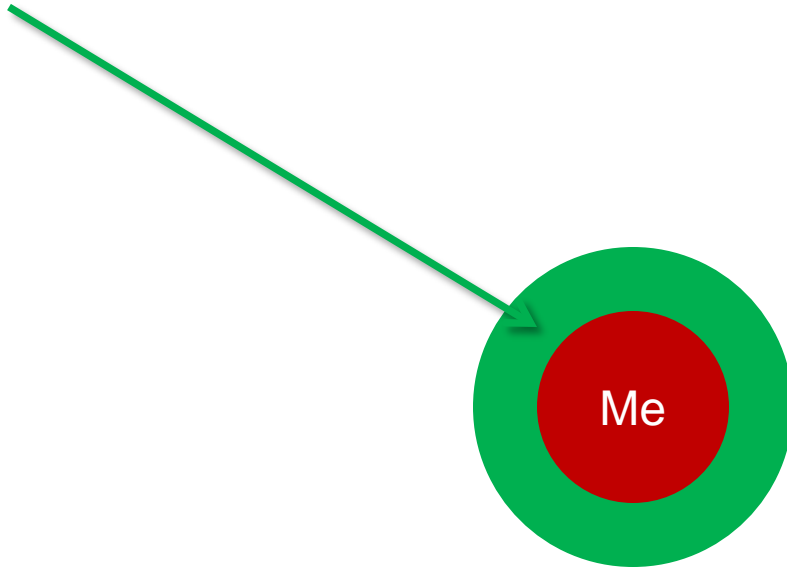
Part Three of our text, Contemporary Moral Issues, is entitled “Expanding the Circle.” It concerns ways in which the circle of morally relevant beings is expanded through a consideration of world hunger, animal welfare, and the environment.

Egoism



Small group consequentialism

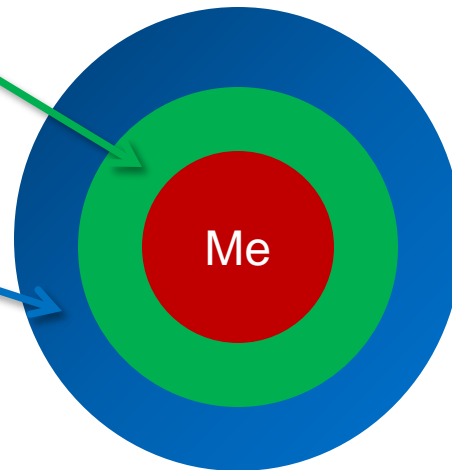
My immediate
group—family,
close friends



Extended group consequentialism

My immediate
group—family,
close friends

My extended
group—country,
religion,
ethnicity

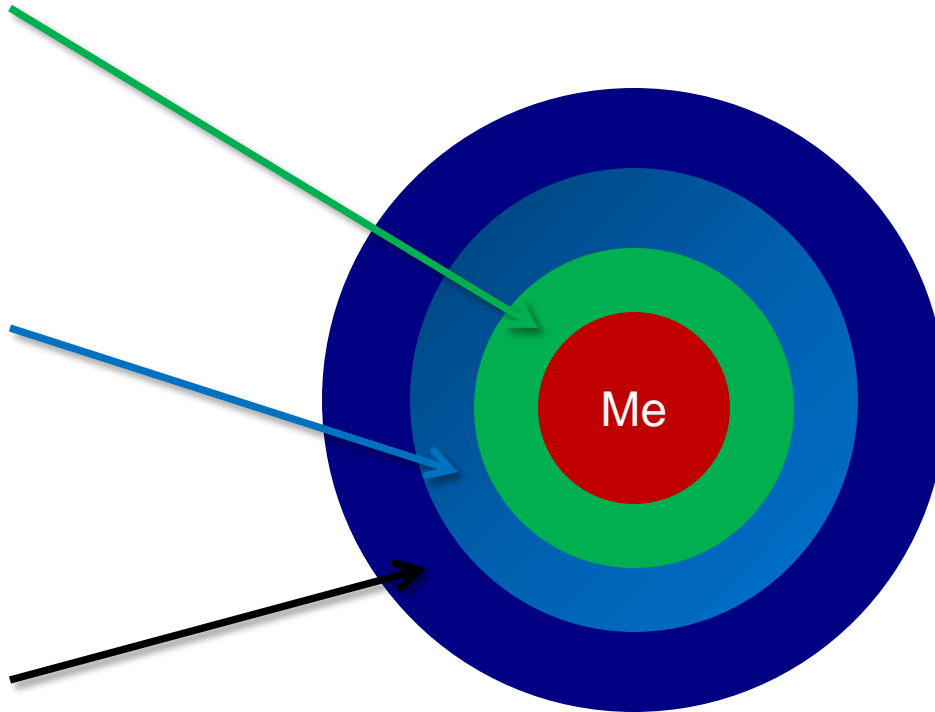


Utilitarianism

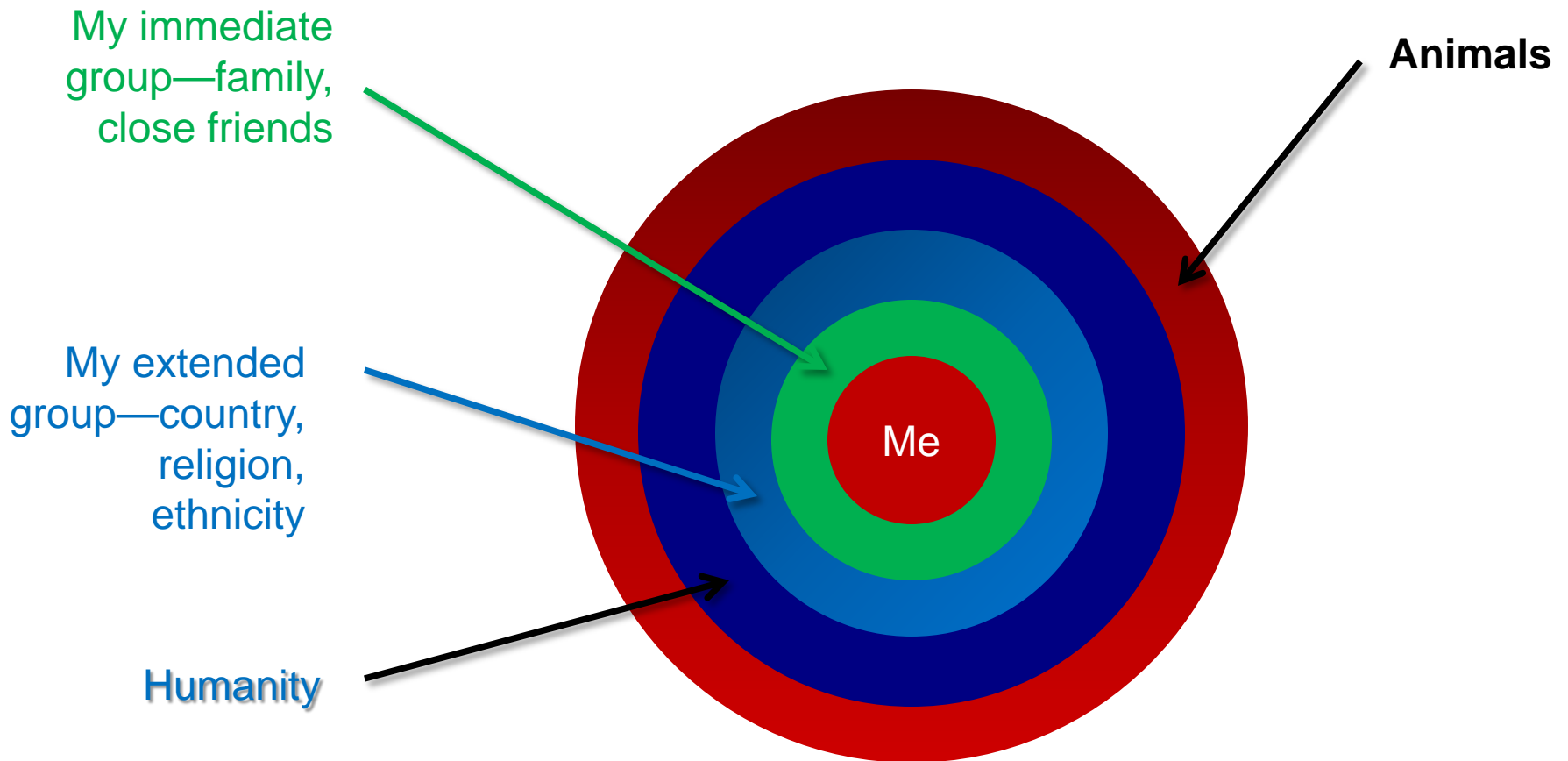
My immediate
group—family,
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Humanity



Sentient being utilitarianism



Environmental consequentialism

