James Rachels, The Elements of Moral Philosophy

Adopted from lists created by W.O. Stephens, PhD (Creighton University)

Chapter 3.

a.) Explain what Rachels calls Simple (Ethical) Subjectivism.

b.) What are the two most prominent objections to Simple Subjectivism?

c.) Explain Charles L. Stevenson's theory of Emotivism.

d.) How does Emotivism avoid the two objections to Simple Subjectivism?

e.) Explain Rachels' criticisms of Emotivism.

f.) What explanations does Rachels offer for the fact that people persist in believing that moral judgments are "unprovable" and so ultimately neither true nor false?

g.) Explain the arguments for and against the view that homosexuality is immoral.