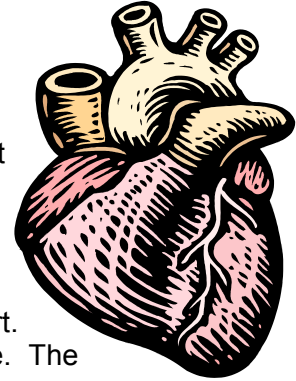


Unit Two - Law and Order

Who Gets the Heart ?



You are members of the heart transplant surgery team at a local hospital. At this moment, you have six patients who desperately need a heart transplant if they are to have any chance of living. You have just received word that the heart of a 16- year old boy, who was killed in an auto accident, has become available for transplantation. Speed is extremely important as you decide which of the following patients is to receive the heart. Not only might the patients die, the donor heart will soon begin to deteriorate. The heart would work equally well in any of the patients.

First – list the reasons each donor should receive the heart. Then list the reasons he or she should not receive the heart. Rank the patients in the order you think they should receive the heart: 1 = first to receive, 6 = last to receive. Finally, prepare to answer the arguments of other members of the heart team who feel differently than you do.

1. Jonas Kasperak, male, age 55. Mr. Kasperak is employed as a steelworker. He and his unemployed 47 year old wife have seven children, ages 8-22. His hobby is horticulture and he is close to achieving his lifelong dream of growing a hardy orange that would thrive in Southern Utah's hot summers and mild winters.
2. Elena Rodriguez, female, age 28. Mrs. Rodriguez sings first soprano in the Utah Metropolitan Opera. Local critics have said that she has the potential to become one of the greatest sopranos in history. She has a reputation for being selfish and temperamental. She is divorced and has two children ages 2 and 3.
3. Franklin Johns, male, age 42. Mr. Johns is a research scientist at the University of Utah and is the leading authority in the world on possible cures for AIDS. He is unmarried and hates dogs and children.
4. Carlos Wannon, male, age 10. Carlos is the son of a Venezuelan heart surgeon visiting at the University of Utah. He is a straight-A student in elementary school. He is the only child of middle-aged parents. When he grows up, he wants to be a doctor.
5. Lincoln Bradley, male, age 65. Mr. Bradley is the Vice President of the United States. He is the only Utahan ever to have achieved such a successful political career. Several national grass-roots groups are urging that he run for the presidency because of his abilities as a statesman. He is the father of three grown children and the grandfather of five.
6. Helen Jackson, female, age 39. Mrs. Jackson, a recent widow, is unemployed and has three children, ages 4, 8, and 10. She is known for her cheerfulness and her willingness to help her neighbors.