

Lecture 18 Reading Questions

“Justice & the Family”

Readings:

“Introduction: Justice and Gender.”

“Justice as Fairness: For Whom?”

Chapters 1 and 5 in “Justice, Gender, and the Family”
by Susan Moller Okin.

(1) Okin argues that marriage makes women vulnerable, much more so than men. Why?

(2) In what sense is the family a “school of justice”? Is every family a school of social justice in this sense?

(3) According to Okin, the family poses an “equality of opportunity problem” that has been widely ignored. What is this problem, and how is it that Rawls’ theory effectively ignores it?

(4) How does Okin propose to amend Rawls’ theory in order to fix the problem?

(5) What follows from Okin’s amendment? Should laws be changed? Which ones? Anything else?

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