

BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE PILANI- K.K.
BIRLA GOA CAMPUS
SEMESTER I: 2022-2023
Comprehensive Examination (Closed Book)
Introduction to Social Psychology (HSS F372)

Part B

28-12-2022 (10:00am-01:00pm)

Total Marks: 20

Instructions: Answers using concepts from outside the syllabus of this course, even if correct, will not fetch marks. **Please avoid unnecessary elaboration of concepts and repetition of same explanation with different jargons and statements. Please remember that your instructor can understand only what you write, not what you mean.** Also, using the same examples from the lecture slides, even if they are correct, may fetch you average marks. A good answer is expected to have new example/s. Make sure you revise your answers both for correctness and language. **Mobile phone, or any electronic gadgets are not allowed during exam. All the best!**

1. Read the following case and answer the questions below:

A lifelong athlete, Yukiko Marth is accustomed to pushing her lithe, 51-year-old body. What she isn't accustomed to is having it push back. So when she woke one morning in September 1999 after three days of volleyball to find both ankles ballooned with fluid, she knew something was terribly wrong. Marth's official diagnosis was acute glomerulonephritis of unknown origin. Within weeks, she was on dialysis.

By December, Marth couldn't eat, and she was very weak. A transplant was her only hope for recovery. Yet she was told that finding a cadaverous kidney (a kidney harvested from someone who has died) for a woman with her blood type generally takes 3 years—an eternity for someone in Marth's fragile physical condition. Her outlook was understandably grim when Charlie Kees, Marth's sometime tennis and volleyball partner, stepped in with an ace of an offer: He would donate his kidney if they were compatible.

"I knew where she had been as an athlete, and I was watching her body become deteriorated and emaciated and constantly tethered to a machine," says Kees, 39, a former firefighter who had met Marth only six months earlier while playing volleyball. "And my only thought was, if there was any way I could help her get back to where she had been, I wanted to do it. It just felt like something I was supposed to do. It felt like it was my purpose to help."

Spoken like the perfect doubles partner—with, it turns out, the perfect kidney: Kees and Marth turned out to be a match. And on June 28, 2001, after enduring more than a year's worth of dieting and tests, Kees donated his kidney laparoscopically (without the extensive cutting of traditional surgery).

Marth's own recovery was lengthier—she was back on the court within seven weeks of her surgery, but it took six to seven months to regain her strength and competitive form. One year to the day after her transplant surgery, she won the gold medal in women's singles tennis at the 2002 US Transplant Games in Orlando.

- A. What can theories on “helping” or “altruism” tell us about the possible reasons of Mr. Kees’s action in the above case? [10 Marks_ 100-350 words]

 - B. Do you think Mr. Kees’s action could be an example of “genuine altruism”? Provide justification for your answer. [5 Marks_50-100 words]
2. “*Groups are always less productive than individuals.*” – Discuss this statement with reference to relevant social psychological theory and example/s. [5Marks_50-100 words]
