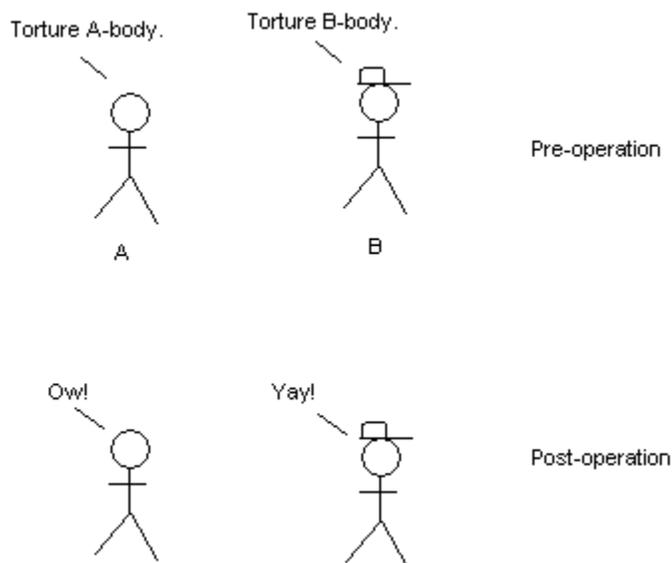


0 Last time

Last time we talked about psychological criteria for personal identity through time. Shoemaker talks about and rejects versions of Memory Theory, and ends up endorsing the broader Psychological Criterion.

1 Two thought experiments

Say that A and B agree to undergo an experiment in which after Procedure X, one will receive \$100,000 and the other will be tortured. Who will be tortured will be designated roughly by appearance - that is, we will say the A-body-person will get \$100,000 and the B-body-person will be tortured, or vice versa. Procedure X involves something like complete transfer of memory and psychological traits, so that after the procedure, the A-body-person will behave like B and the B-body-person will behave like A.



Consider now this scenario - when do you stop fearing torture?

1. You are told you (or the person in your body...) will be tortured tomorrow.
2. You are told you will not remember being told today that you will be tortured tomorrow.
3. You are told that you will have complete amnesia.
4. You are told that you will receive fictitious memories not fitting the life of any actual person.
5. You are told that you will then receive the memories of Barack Obama by "copying" them from his brain, leaving his memories intact.

6. You are told that instead, Barack Obama will receive your memories at exactly the same time.

2 Bodily criteria of identity through time

Let's say that persons are in fact identical to their bodies. In particular, bodily continuity is necessary and sufficient for personal identity through time. There are various candidates for which part persons are identical to.

Option 1: The whole thing.

- Pros: This is a pretty simple answer.
- Cons: What if you lose a hand? Etc.

Option 2: Over 50% of the body.

- Pros: Clear decision procedure.
- Problems: This is crazy!

Option 3: The brain, or part of the brain.

- Occipital lobe (perception), frontal lobe (executive function), hypothalamus (memory), amygdala (emotion center), pituitary gland...?
- Pros: Some collection of these are good candidates for being you.
- Cons: Fission cases...

Option 4: One atom.

- Pros: No problems with vagueness or fission.
- Cons: This is crazy!