

Warrants: Examining Assumptions

Directions: A series of environmental catastrophic events has virtually wiped out human life on Earth. The only known survivors in your vicinity are the eleven listed below. However, there are only enough resources for seven people. Choose the 5 people to survive.

1. Dr. D - thirty-seven, PhD in History, college professor, in good health (jogs daily), hobby is botany, enjoys politics, married with one child (Bobby)
2. Mrs. D - thirty-eight, rather obese, diabetic, MA in psychology, counselor in mental health clinic, married to Dr. D., has one child.
3. Bobby D - ten, cognitively deficient with IQ of 70, healthy and strong for his age.
4. Mrs. G. - twenty-three, ninth-grade education, cocktail waitress, married at age sixteen, divorced at age eighteen, one son (Joseph)
5. Joseph G. - three months old, healthy
6. Mary E. - eighteen, trade school education, wears glasses, artistic.
7. Mr. N. - twenty-five, starting last year of medical school, music as a hobby, physical fitness buff.
8. Mrs. C. - twenty-eight, daughter of a minister, college graduate, electronics engineer, single now after a brief marriage.
9. Mr. B. - fifty-one, BS in mechanics, married with four children, enjoys outdoors, much experience in construction, quite handy.
10. Father Frans - thirty-seven, Catholic priest, active civil rights, former college athlete, farming background, often criticized for liberal views.
11. Dr. L. - sixty-six, doctor in general practice, two heart attacks in the past five years, loves literature and quotes extensively.

Who are the people you want to survive?

Who should not survive?

In the space below, create Claim, Evidence, and Warrant statements, following the given example. Write **two** for people you want to survive, and **two** for people you don't want to survive.

Example: Claim: Mrs. G. should not be allowed to survive.
 Evidence/Reason: She has no skills vital to the survival of the group.
 Warrant: Those chosen to survive must have skills vital to the survival of the group.

Claim: Mrs. G. should be allowed to survive
Evidence/Reason: She has an infant son.
Warrant: Those with infants should be allowed to survive.

What this would look like in a paragraph: Mrs. G. should not be allowed to survive. She has no skills vital to the survival of the group. Those chosen to survive must have skills vital to the survival of the group. Since Mrs. G. doesn't have any skills, she should not be allowed to survive.

Stuck on Warrants?

→ Start your response with "Typically" or "As a rule". Then, cross out that transition and rework when necessary.

→ Think: What would I have to believe in order to accept that claim, given the evidence/reason provided.