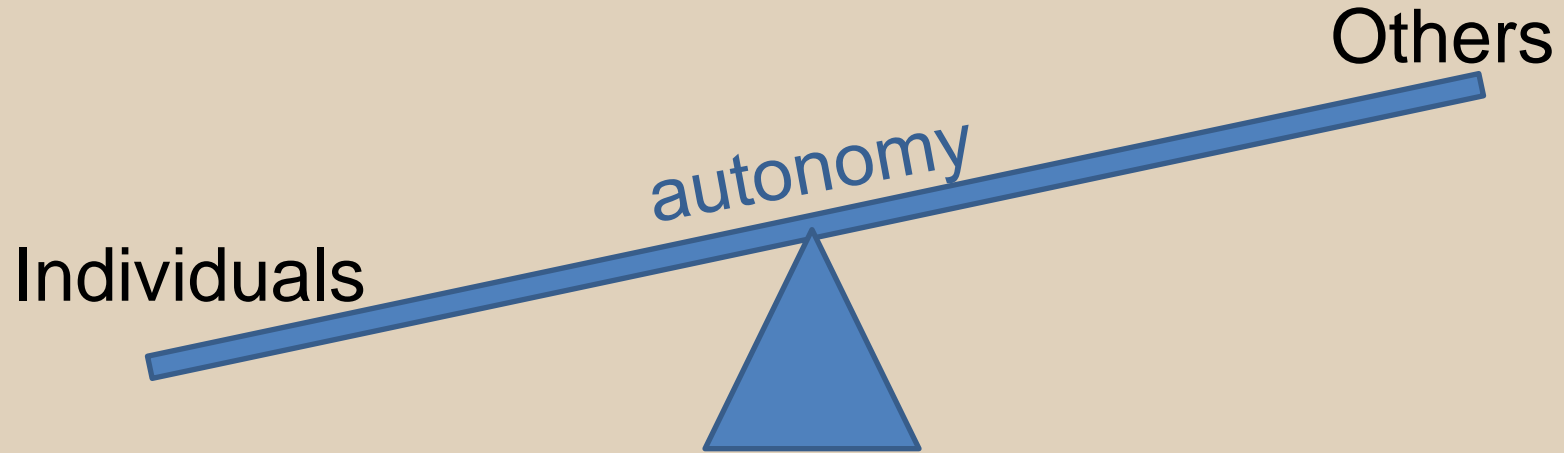


# Autonomy and Abortion: Choices and Relationships

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# Moving away from ...



# Towards ...?

Individuals

*autonomy*

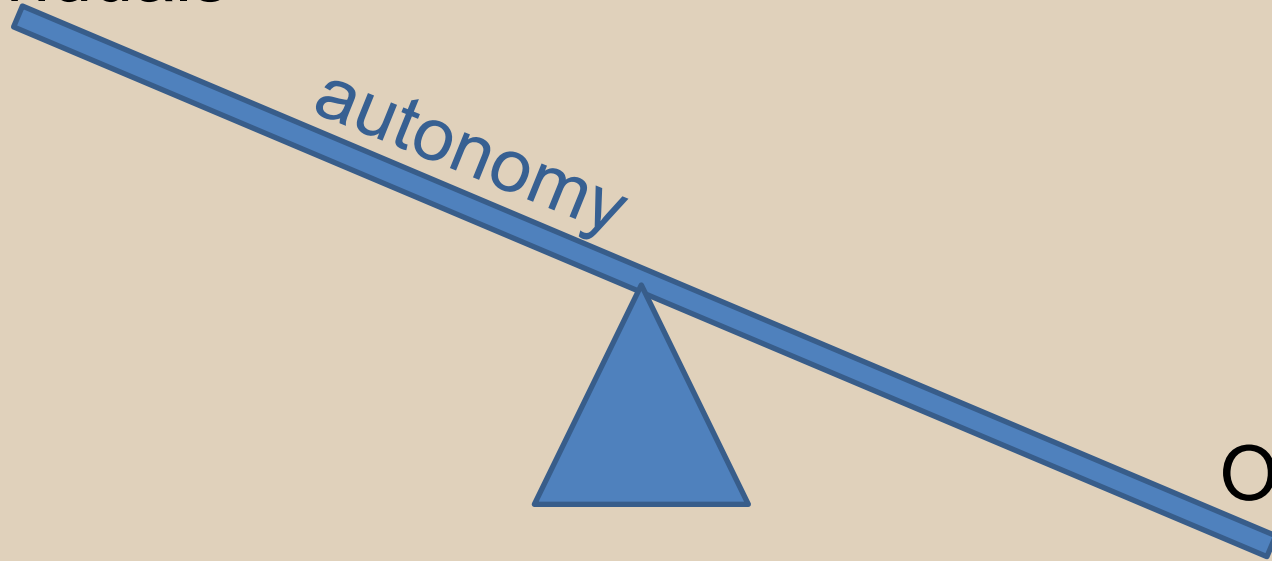
Others

# Towards ...?

- ‘At a minimum, personal autonomy encompasses self-rule that is free from both controlling interference by others and limitations that prevent meaningful choice, such as adequate understanding.’
  - Beauchamp and Childress, *Principles of Biomedical Ethics* (2013, p. 101).

# Self-rule autonomy

Individuals

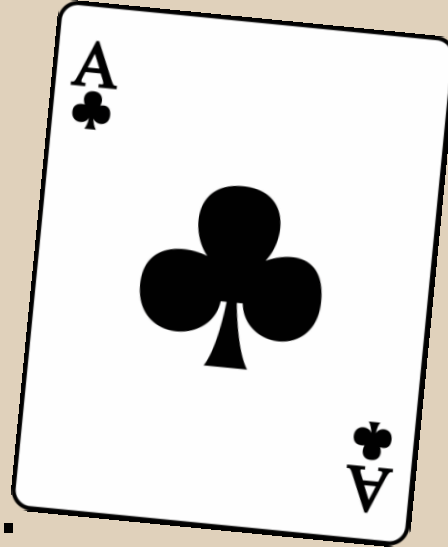


Others

# Limits we accept

- Medically
- Legally
- Ethically

- Self-rule autonomy = autonomy as a trump card
- Autonomy is a means to an end; it doesn't tell us what ends are ethical.

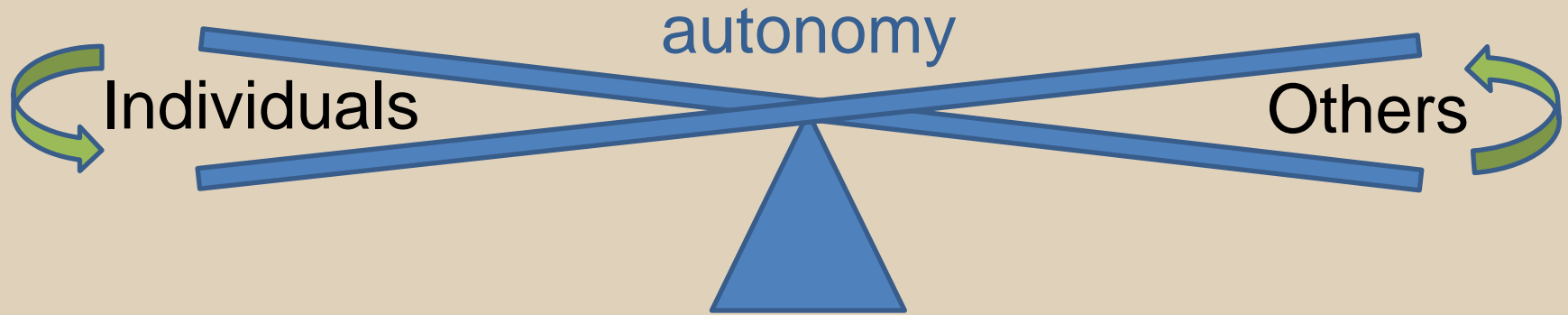


# Relational autonomy

- People should make important decisions about their lives.
- We live in relationships, not in autonomous bubbles.
- Our relationships bring ethical responsibilities which should influence our choices.



# Relational autonomy



- Relational autonomy goes beyond the right to choose; it includes the responsibility to choose the right thing.
- Our choices are impacted by others and they impact others, e.g. partners, children, parents, friends, communities, society.

# Autonomy and justice

- We act ethically when we use our autonomy to further the autonomy and good of others, especially the weakest and most vulnerable.

- Choices bring consequences.
- Relationships bring responsibilities.

# What values do we want society built on?

- A tale of two sisters

# Thank you



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