VALUE
UTILITY : PERSONAL & SOCIAL

Assuming that ~~utilities~~ values and ~~disvalues~~ disvalues can be assigned numerical values, we propose the following axioms relevant to ethics:

POSTULATE 1. The ~~total~~ value utility of the outcome of any human act equals the sum of a personal and a social part, either of which can be zero. I.e., for all acts a and all ~~persons~~ actors i, $U_i(a) = U_i^p(a) + U_i^s(a)$.

DEFINITION 2. A human act is <u>morally acceptable</u> ~~provided it does not harm people other than the actor~~, i.e. provided the social ~~utility~~ value of its outcome is not negative. I.e.,

If $a \in \mathcal{Q}$, then a is <u>morally acceptable</u> $=_{df}$ for all i, $U_i^s(a) \geq 0$.

COROLLARY 1. Self-destructive acts, including suicide, are morally acceptable provided they are not socially burdensome.

COROLLARY 2. Punishment is morally acceptable iff its consequences have a ~~def~~ significant social utility (e.g., reeducating ~~the~~ antisocial individuals).