**Principle of Generic Consistency**

1. **Nature of action as free and purposive:**

**Whenever I choose to achieve a purpose, I assume that my choice is free and that I seek some goal, end, or good as my purpose.**

1. **Necessary willing of my own freedom and other basic conditions of well-being:**

**Whenever I choose to buy a car, for example, I necessarily will my own freedom, my own understanding, and my own basic well-being as conditions for my free choice. I am the one choosing. I am choosing in accord with my own evaluation of all the various models. Finally, I am not buying the car in order to crash it into my house and destroy both the car and house in a fiery explosion. Rather, I see the car as a good way to get around town.**

1. **The obligation of others to respect my freedom, understanding, and basic well-being:**

**When I necessarily will my freedom, understanding, and basic well-being, I rationally must will that others should not interfere with my action, assuming that I am not planning a dastardly deed. I necessarily will that others ought not to interfere with my action. If I could will that others could interfere with my action that I would not be truly choosing my goal and my necessary means to my goal.**

1. **Universalization of the Necessary Conditions for Free and Purposive Action:**

**If I will (and in fact, I do so will) that others ought not to interfere with my free action, understanding and basic well-being, then I ought to conclude logically and necessarily that all other agents who choose their own goals and the means to their goals ought not to be interfered with by me.**

1. **Hence we affirm the Principle of Generic Consistency:**

**“Act in accord with the generic rights of your recipients as well as of yourself.”**

**Three Kinds of Goods**

1. **Basic Goods**

**Those aspects of well—being which are the necessary preconditions of the performance of any and all actions, for example, life, health, good, shelter mental equilibrium, free choice of actions, and knowledgeable choice of actions.**

1. **Nonsubtractive Goods**

**Those goods the loss of which would diminish one’s ability to fulfill one’s purposes, for example, as a result of being subjected to inferior living conditions, or harsh labor, or as a result of being stolen from, cheated, or lied to.**

1. **Additive Goods**

**Those goods which enhance one’s ability to fulfill one’s purposes, (for example, knowledge, self-esteem, income, education) beyond those included under basic goods.**

**Generally, as adults, we are working to fulfill additive goods. For example, when I invest in retirement funds,**

**I am respecting my basic well-being because I am not striving to harm my life, health, family, freedom, or intelligence;**

**I am respecting my nonsubtractive goods because I am not striving to take away from my basic living expenses that I have for daily living; and**

**I am trying to achieve additions to all my goods because I am striving to increase my savings for retirement.**