

<b>Title</b>	High Noon
<b>Director</b>	Fred Zinnemann
<b>Date</b>	1952
<b>Area</b>	Enlightenment
<b>Theme</b>	Kant
<b>Plot Summary</b>	<p>Story of a lawman, Will Kane (Gary Cooper) who has to face outlaws who have sworn to kill him. He finds that his own town doesn't support him and he has to face the outlaws alone. Nonetheless he feels it is his duty to do so. Can be used to illustrate Kantian ethics, the idea of acting for the sake of duty alone. Firstly, in the manner of the Kantian moral agent, Kane acts as he does on the basis of inner necessity and personal integrity, not pride or an external ideal. When his new bride Amy (Grace Kelly) asks him whether he is trying to be a hero, he replies: 'I'm not trying to be a hero. If you think I like this, you're crazy'. He stays because it is the right thing to do, his duty, the requirement on him as town marshal to uphold the law. In addition, in keeping with the Kantian view of morality as requiring the exclusion of desire or feeling from one's motivation, this dutiful behaviour involves putting aside his own desires and interests. Doing the right thing means doing one's duty despite what one's desires and interests are prompting us to do.</p>
<b>Key Scenes</b>	
<b>Relevant Text</b>	G. F. Kryche, 'High Noon -A Paradigm of Kant's Moral Philosophy', Teaching Philosophy, Vol.II, No.3 (1988): 217-228.