Mr. Goldsack 2017

Agenda #2

**The case of the conjoined twins -**

On August 8, 2000, two children were born to a Roman Catholic couple who live in Malta. The children were conjoined, meaning that they are joined at the pelvis, they share a circulatory system, and their spinal columns are on the same axis. Each child has two arms and two legs. The parents of the twins travelled to Britain in hopes of ensuring that their children could survive.

Doctors in Britain did not believe there was any hope of the twins surviving for more than a year if they remained joined. They believed that if Mary, the weaker of the two who depended on her sister's circulatory system, was separated from Jodie, she would die. Doctors also believed that if the two were separated, Jodie would survive. The parents refused to authorize the separation. Although doctors usually honour parents' wishes in health matters concerning children, the doctors in this case decided to go to court to get permission to perform the separation surgery.

Arguments to support the parents' point of view on this surgery:

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Arguments to support the doctors' point of view on this surgery:

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How does the Dudley and Stephens case apply to this case? (i.e. what precedent was set in Dudley and Stephens that would help the judge to resolve this case?) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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If you were the judge, what would your decision be on this surgery? Explain!

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