

NEW: We have upgraded our email alerts. You can sign up using the 'Email alerts' panel available on most pages, or in your Oxford Academic personal account, where you can also manage any existing alerts.

CHAPTER

14 Obligation, Reason, and Frankfurt Examples

[Get access >](#)

Ishtiyaque Haji

<https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780195399691.003.0014> Pages 288–305

Published: 18 September 2012

Abstract

This article gives an unusual twist to debates about Frankfurt-type examples. It defends the thesis that if agents are to be fit subjects of “morally deontic judgments”, they must have the power to act and to act otherwise. It argues that, if moral praiseworthiness and blameworthiness for actions presuppose that the agents praised or blamed are “fit subjects of morally deontic judgments”, then moral praiseworthiness and blameworthiness would also presuppose the power to act and to act otherwise. In defending these claims, the article makes use of a technical analysis of the notion of moral obligation in terms of accessible possible worlds advanced by Fred Feldman and Michael Zimmerman.

Keywords: [Frankfurt-type examples](#), [moral action](#), [morally deontic judgments](#), [Fred Feldman](#), [Michael Zimmerman](#), [moral obligation](#)

Subject: [Metaphysics](#), [Philosophy](#)

Series: [Oxford Handbooks](#)

Collection: [Oxford Handbooks Online](#)

You do not currently have access to this chapter.

Sign in

 [Get help with access](#)

Personal account

- Sign in with email/username & password

Institutional access



Sign in through your institution

- Get email alerts
- Save searches
- Purchase content
- Activate your purchase/trial code
- Add your ORCID iD

[Sign in >](#)

[Register](#)

[Sign in through your institution](#)

[Sign in with a library card](#)

[Sign in with username/password](#)

[Recommend to your librarian](#)

Institutional account management

[Sign in as administrator](#)

Purchase

Our books are available by subscription or purchase to libraries and institutions.

[Purchasing information](#)