The Case of the Speluncean Explorers: Possible Arguments, Considerations, Concerns, Caveats, and Defenses

(1) The Self-Defense Argument ("What is self-defense?")

(2) The State of Nature Argument ("What is a 'State of Nature'?")

(3) The Self-Preservation Argument ("What is a 'self-preservation' argument?")

(4) The Guidance of Precedent: Holmes v. the United States (1842) and Queen v. Dudley (1884) ("What is precedent?")

(5) The Argument from Duress ("What is duress?")

(6) The “Temporary Insanity” Argument ("What is 'insanity'?")

(7) The “Courting Disaster” Argument

(8) The “Not Even Necessary” Argument and the “Reasonable Belief” Response

(9) The violation of a basic principle such as the rule prohibiting murder is too serious to be excused by the doctrine of necessity:

(10) The rule of “no human jettison”? Cardozo and Cahn ("What is the rule?")

(11) The Arguments against Casting Lots. What other Criteria Might the Spelunkers have used for Deciding Who Should Live and Who should Die?
    a.) the most valuable to society,
    b.) the weakest,
    c.) the one with the largest family to support,
    d.) the one who might pay the most.

(12) Euthanasia: Would Whetmore’s consent to die have changed matters?

(13) Should Numbers Count? John in the Amazon and the Trolley Problem

(14) The Clemency Escape Clause

(15) The Weighting Process: How Is it to be Done?

(16) Perhaps there is an even more general principle: Obey the law except in those circumstances where obeying the law is outweighed by the terrible consequences that would follow. So disobey if more good than evil will come? Is this the Principle of Necessity?