PHIL 1050 – ETHICS IN SCIENCE

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Weekly Assignment 2

Read the selections of *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson. In no more than 250 words, present, explain, and evaluate her argument. Make sure you charitably state her argument by showing the connection between her evidence and her conclusion. Explain the evidence and assess whether the evidence is sufficient to justify the conclusion. If so, how does it succeed? If not, why not and how could you improve it?

Questions to consider:

- Does her argument rely on hidden assumptions (e.g. human life is valuable)? Make sure you state those clearly and assess whether she justifies them or whether they can be independently justified.
- Are there multiple arguments in the text? Are there multiple conclusions? Focus on the strongest argument, if you believe there is more than one.
- Does the argument rely on an emotional or moral response? Does it merely rely on scientific values? Some combination?