How should we think about queue-jumping?

Katharine G. Young
Rights and Queues: Some background

• Rights
  – A “rights revolution” in law and politics
  – New developments: economic and social rights

• Queues
  – A common sense backdrop to health care, wait lists, triage, rationing, access and priority systems
  – Now embedded within rights (not just health care)
    – housing/education/immigration/affirmative action
The Conceptual Questions

- **Rights**
  - Prohibit queues
  - Permit queues
  - Require queues

- **Queues**
  - Institute rights (where permitted or required)
  - Create rights (a place in the queue)
  - Displace rights (those otherwise seeking access)
The Queue as a Concept

• Allocate scarce resources
  – differentiated ways

• Uphold values
  – Fairness - equality and desert
  – Order not chaos
  – Social integration, trust, cooperation

• Invitation to self-sanction
  – Queue-talk
South Africa’s queue talk
Australia’s queue talk
Canada’s queue talk
How should we think about queue jumping?

• Unresolved questions
  – Order versus corruption
  – Command versus markets
  – “Accountable” deliberation versus courts

• Obscured questions
  – First order questions

• Stakes
  – Politics of waiting/enmity