18. We use Eq. 23-3, assuming both charges are positive.

$$E_{\text{left ring}} = E_{\text{right ring}} \qquad \text{evaluated at } P$$

$$\frac{q_1 R}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 \left(R^2 + R^2\right)^{3/2}} = \frac{q_2 (2R)}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 \left((2R)^2 + R^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

Simplifying, we obtain

$$\frac{q_1}{q_2} = 2\left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^{3/2} \approx 0.51 \ .$$