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The Inquisition of Morality

Morality is one of the most important issues of our time, because it is increasingly becoming a social concept of crime prevention, a crime prevention program, and a socio-cultural concept of security. Currently, we are throwing a whole lot of dirt around. We all think we are on the right side of history. But this very history tells us enough examples to know where this way of dealing with each other will lead us.

Are you well set up? Are you sitting comfortably? You have made your bed now you have to lie in it. The right music in your ears? Yes, the soundtrack is not unimportant.

Morals - this topic is one of the most important of our time. Consider the welcome and introduction as already completed, we will start right away. This will be a vertical start. So hold on tight and concentrate.

Tasting the fruit of the tree of morality has led to being kicked out of paradise. You remember? The tree of knowledge of good and evil in the Garden of Eden. Its fruits are highly toxic, their effect mind-altering. Those who are intoxicated not only perceive the world in a completely different way, they are also disturbed by it. Imagine the drug that turns hippies into little-minded nerds - who plants such a thing in the middle of paradise? Morality is defined as a system of binding moral norms and principles that regulate interpersonal behavior. Morality, then, is something like the streetlights to illuminate the road of conduct.

Since the Neolithic, when mankind settled down, every generation has taken a bite of the bittersweet, juicy flesh of arrogant self-righteousness. Today, it is mainly the media that divide the world into good and evil, black and white, zeros and ones, right and wrong. They spread out the map of thinking, feeling and acting before us and, with the ruler of haughty complacency, draw out their principles of the interpersonal behavior they desire as sociological coordinates, declare them to be the norm in godlike sovereignty and impose their worldview on half of humanity. What doesn't fit is made to fit or dropped under the table and kicked under the carpet. The critical, rational mind is declared a witch, pilloried, torn apart on the rack and, if all that doesn't help, burned in the media under agitation and ridicule. The fact that the coordinates are defined and interpreted extremely individually is no longer even noticed.

Definition

Morality is a system of binding moral norms and principles designed to regulate interpersonal behavior.

Morality is increasingly becoming a social concept for crime prevention, a pre-crime program, a sociocultural concept of security, and is laying ever louder claim to the bench. The self-proclaimed tribunal passes its verdicts in public-media show trials. Its code of law is an arbitrary moral code, its paragraphs cobbled together from cognitive distortions. Evidence is suppressed, witnesses are scared, and the accused are not even put in the dock, but burned at the stake in the media.

Four methods are used systematically:

1. with cognitive distortions,
2. logical fallacies,
3. definitional distortions
4. stigmatization, moral blackmail and coercion.

1. cognitive distortions - the 11 most common thinking errors

Arbitrary conclusions: *In this type of thinking error, hasty conclusions are drawn without sufficient evidence.*

Overgeneralization: *As with arbitrary conclusions, an all-encompassing conclusion is drawn on the basis of a single event. Thus, an erroneous generalization is made from a single, narrowed-down situation to the larger picture.*

Black-and-white thinking: *Classic thinking in which there are only two extremes and no intermediate steps. Example: "Either my performance will be a complete success or I have totally failed". Most of the time, reality is much more differentiated than this thinking error suggests.*

Mind reading: *Of course it is possible to have an idea of what other people are thinking, but just not exactly. Nevertheless, remote diagnoses and personality profiles are being made more and more frequently, based on hypothetical fragments, and future behavior is being predicted.*

Fortune telling, coffee grounds reading: *Just like mind-reading, fortune-telling thinking errors tend to jump to conclusions and make predictions - but without evidence and on a questionable basis.*

Highly segmented perception (tunnel vision): *Only one view of a situation is allowed, seen, and overemphasized, while contrary information is suppressed or distorted.*

Excessive accountability: *This thinking error characterizes the tendency to attribute overwhelming responsibility to oneself for negative outcomes, even for things beyond one's control.*

Personalization: *In this thinking error, events are prematurely related to one's own person, while external circumstances as well as other people are ignored. "If I don't do all the work myself, the whole place will go down."*

Catastrophizing: *In this thinking error, future disaster scenarios are imagined without any evidence base; the worst-case scenario is unjustifiably assumed.*

Emotional thinking: *This thinking problem consists in the erroneous deduction from an inner state of mind to external factors. In the case of fear, conclusions are drawn from somatic or psychological events to a real external danger, according to the motto: "If I'm afraid of it, then I must also be dangerous."*

The Matthew Effect: *"For to him who has, it will be given; but from him who does not have, it will be taken away." Matt. 25:29. People trust people they already know more than people they don't know. Successful young professionals are also more likely to come from recognized circles (e.g., Nobel Prize winners, presidents, professors, experts). Those who have already won a prize, who have already carried out projects, are also more likely to get further assignments. Much-cited researchers are cited more often than lesser-known ones. The Matthew effect shows how common logical fallacies are. Mr. X comes from a family of good doctors. Mr. X is also a doctor. Mr. X is therefore also a good doctor and all his statements are irrefutably correct. What a good doctor is, is defined differently by everyone and the conclusion is just wrong.*

2. logical fallacies

Every human being is mortal. You are a human being. You are mortal. This example serves as a linear argument to show how an argument is constructed. The first two propositions are premises, assumptions that lead to a conclusion by logical continuation: If you and I are human, and all humans are mortal, then you and I will die one day. This is a logical conclusion. But why? When are reasonings logical and when are they not?

Conclusions are derivations of the abstract formula "If A and B are so, we can deduce C from them". Fallacies are continuations of assumptions that are illogical or false. In informal fallacies, their premises, their assumptions, are not true. The conclusion itself may be formally correct, but if one of the premises is factually incorrect, the argument is also incorrect. Example:

All humans think fast cars are cool.

X is a human being. Therefore, X thinks fast cars are cool.

Technically, there is nothing wrong with the argument. The flaw lies in the first premise, which is factually false. Therefore, the entire argument is invalid. Even if an assumption is factually correct, the conclusion can still be wrong because it works with an assumption that is not in the formula. This is like calculating with numbers that do not appear in the calculation.

All presidents are human beings. X is a human being and therefore a president.

Everything is materially correct here. Logically, however, the argument is not. The conclusion does not follow from the premise: X is not a president because he is a human being.

3. definition distortions

Whether democracy, the Basic Law, justice or truth - concepts and definitions are now just jars in the hands of political parties and the media. The label remains the same, but the content is exchanged at will. The media and politics are the plastic surgeons of society and specialize in ideology-adapting operations. Appearance instead of reality.

4. stigmatization, moral blackmail and coercion

Anyone who now criticizes the cognitive distortions, the logical fallacies and definitional distortions is stigmatized according to the same recipe and declared a moral leper. On social media, hate speech is now no longer hate speech as long as it is directed against Putin and the Russians. The label remains the same, the content has been exchanged.

From right to left - we jump on this bandwagon again and again and howl from the deepest soul with the pack at the moon, or whatever we think is the moon at the moment! From the Jews, over the Christians, the witches, the Indians, the niggers, the bamboo rats, the gypsies, the swags, the greens, the leftists, the rightists, the Americans, the cross-thinkers, up to the Putin-understanders, we press every time willingly the glowing branding iron into the flesh of the declared to the enemy and mark them, like the bees mark a supposed attacker with alarm pheromona and fall in the swarm over them. Why is this so? Because morality is a highly toxic substance. The dose makes the difference.

The vast majority of us are like the moon, which we howl at in a pack: they don't shine out of themselves, they merely reflect the light of the sun. We are no longer hunters and gatherers - we are consumers. We leave the dirty work to others. We like to talk about responsibility, as long as it's not our own. Why? Because we want to be seen, because we want to belong - but preferably without much effort, preferably from the sofa.

But very often our opinion is not our opinion - it is leased, like everything else in our life. Our opinion is the member card for our social belonging. We know more about life in the ocean (that's about 2%) than we do about the unconscious catalog of conditions we fulfill daily to avoid falling into disfavor. We perform highly acrobatic psychological contortions and do anything to avoid being cast out of the pack and our bubble - and this is what keeps us from thinking about ourselves and questioning our actions.

Currently, we are throwing a whole lot of shit around. We all think we are on the right side of history. But this very history tells us enough examples to know where this way of dealing with each other will lead us. Fire in the heart gives smoke in the head. Too much unthinking devotion clouds our perception and our minds.

With this in mind, don't let every snake push fruit at you, watch what you bite on, check assumptions and conclusions carefully, don't jump on every bandwagon and howl with every pack. Just do your own light and thing.

The Inquisition of Morality 5 / 5

Many thanks for your attention

Jack Kabey



***Jack Kabey** is not as important as his readers. For over three decades, he was a security advisor and strategy consultant for public institutions and international trading companies. Today, he is a freelance writer and publicist, putting his finger in the wounds of our time, putting into words what should no longer be put into words, and reflecting with the necessary dash of humor on the deepest corners of the rabbit hole we call our lives. Jack Kabey is an avatar, his name a pseudonym. The author simply wants to keep his identity to himself so that he can devote all his energy to researching and writing. His work is mostly financed by donations. He lives in Manarola / Italy.*