**Afterthoughts: They Know ... and They Don't...**

APR 13 54 19 5

My Biggest Disagreement with Will T Wilkinson's Essay

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Activation2041 Apr 13
Author

Eradicating?

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Margaret Anna Alice Apr 13
Author

Nuremberg-style :-)

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Dr Mike Yeadon Dr Mike Yeadon Apr 13
Liked by Margaret Anna Alice, Activation2041

Consideration of vengeance or forgiveness is of course premature because those I collectively call The Perpetrators are delighted with progress and are continuing with their coup d'etat of the world.

As MAA says, iirc, the more important thing at this time is to do what we can to prevent the perpetrators from accomplishing their evil agenda:

If we were in a period of calm reflection, I'd be all for due process and appropriate punishments.

We'd need procedural justice and that extends to the appropriateness of the sanctions.

Unquestionably, there would be to my mind a substantial group for whom the death penalty would be needed, if for no other reason than to prevent them doing it again in a decade or two.

Very many would be fined to poverty level.

I've always found true forgiveness difficult. That might say more about me than those who've committed wrongdoing. Few people ever truly confess their sins and express remorse. If they did, I then have the opposite problem. I would struggle to withhold forgiveness.

But to remind us again, right now, the more likely outcome is that evil lunatics kill several billion people, like they've dreamed of since the founding of the Fabians in 1884, and much earlier too.

LIKED (5) REPLY (1) SHARE

Margaret Anna Alice Apr 13
Author

Thank you for this searingly honest, spiritually challenging, and ultimately realistic assessment, Mike. Your statement that you "would struggle to withhold forgiveness" reflects the depth of your sensitivity and superior quality of character.

If you haven't already done so, I highly recommend reading the post that provoked this exchange as I believe it corroborates your perception of the cruelties (or Useless Eliters, as you often say):

- https://margaretannaalice.substack.com/p/they-know-and-they-dont-care

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Activation2041 Apr 14
Author

Agreed. Mike's comment is right on. What fascinates me is abandoning the belief that we all need to agree on the one best strategy to address evil (or for any other issue), and embrace a different belief, that all of us need to find our unique approach. Forgiveness and love is where some folks resonate. But if we all did that no-one would be held accountable for misdeeds. Other folks are into justice and even vengeance. If we were all like that we'd be at war perpetually. I'm seeing more and more people taking a personal stand, some misguided but hopefully experimenting their way to authenticity. The key, to me, is for every individual to find their way to living a sovereign life. How can we best help each other do that?

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KatWarrior Strange On The Frontlines Apr 13
Liked by Margaret Anna Alice

Geez! Louise! I am stuck in a quandary. My brain says, "off with their heads!" My heart says, "off with their heads!"

How can one forgive a person who has zero capacity for love, compassion, empathy or sympathy? Can they change?

Jesus walked the earth and taught people to be kind, show compassion, offer grace, and forgiveness, refrain from judgment, keep promises, and more.

The idea that God's forgiveness is available to all is a common belief. However, the psychopath's ability to genuinely repent is questionable at best. Therefore, the path to redemption is fraught with insurmountable challenges?

The real question is, do we get revenge or does God? I haven't been able to reconcile this one yet.

Obviously, I am grappling with things others may not find appropriate. Thought I would throw this one in the ring anyway.

LIKED (5) REPLY (3) SHARE

Margaret Anna Alice Apr 13
Author

"I am stuck in a quandary. My brain says, 'off with their heads!' My heart says, 'off with their heads!'"

😂😂😂

For me, it's not about vengeance. It's about preventing future innocents from being victimized by these soulless perpetrators. That's justice.

LIKED (4) REPLY SHARE

KatWarrior Strange On The Frontlines Apr 13
Liked by Margaret Anna Alice

So, we do then get to be judge, jury, and executioner?

Vigilante?

Our legal system is a clown show of captured (paid off) judges as far as I can tell. There is a reason it's called the Criminal Justice System.

Our trust has been threadbare for quite some time. What do we do to obtain justice?

LIKED (4) REPLY (1) SHARE

Margaret Anna Alice Apr 13
Author

Vigilantiesm would likely devolve into barbarism, so if we want to maintain some degree of civilization, we need to reform the criminal justice system, but I can't say I have an easy answer to to how other than to start by instituting practices of transparency and accountability while prohibiting conflicts of interest to begin cleansing the system of corruption.

LIKED (4) REPLY SHARE

Swabbie Robbie Swabbie Robbie Apr 13
Liked by Margaret Anna Alice

At best, we know we must remove some people from society. The dangerous ones, the predators. The severely mentally ill.

LIKED (4) REPLY SHARE

Anthony S Burkett Anthony's Substack Apr 14 *Edited*
Liked by Margaret Anna Alice, Activation2041

"Forgiveness or justice?" Isn't the question... The question is, where does either one stop? Answer that question, and one will immediately know which one to apply, when, where, and to what extent.

LIKED (4) REPLY SHARE

Swabbie Robbie Swabbie Robbie Apr 13
Liked by Margaret Anna Alice

kunlangeta seems like it was a very important remedy in times when tribes of people could not jail and care for severe criminals. For lesser offenses they were exiled from the tribe and had to make their survival on their own. Now we have the infrastructure for trials and prisons. But we also have a very dysfunctional legal system. When it supports criminals over law abiding citizens something's got to give.

When I was still in my twenties a family we knew well took in an estranged brother of the wife who spent his teen years in foster homes. He was welcomed and supported by the family, but ... he began raping their 14 year old daughter and threatening the daughter that if she said anything he would kill her 9 year old brother. The husband wanted to take him hunting (kunlangeta). The wife gave him a bus ticket out of state. That saved his life and probably the husband from going to prison. I heard he was killed in a robbery a few years later.

I watched A Clockwork Orange only one time when it 1st came out. Never would again but that clip is still burned into my mind. Now we see the results of such techniques such as Ludovicko and MK Ultra and the usage of SSRI drugs manifest in our world all over. Here on Easter's Palm Sunday we must keep our perspective and understand we can help some people, we can work against evil, but with some people are unreachable.

LIKED (3) REPLY (1) SHARE

Margaret Anna Alice Apr 13
Author

Thank you for this chilling anecdote, Swabbie Robbie, as well as your nuanced thoughts on this complex topic.

The wife had a prudent solution, but I also wonder—as I do when victims of crimes fail to report those crimes—if he afflicted others similarly or worse because he was not brought to justice (ideally through the criminal system so the husband doesn't have to sacrifice his life and freedom) at the time the horrendous offense was discovered.

LIKED (3) REPLY (1) SHARE

Swabbie Robbie Swabbie Robbie Apr 13
Liked by Margaret Anna Alice

I always felt their daughter did not get the closure that trial and imprisonment would have provided. Though we did not know her as an adult, I fear she bore the emotional scars through her life. And yes, I think the brother getting off the hook would have victimized others until he met his fate.

LIKED (4) REPLY (1) SHARE

Margaret Anna Alice Apr 13
Author

This hits home really hard right now because just today, a friend confided that she is beginning to have memories of a relative having molested her as a child. Entire parts of her childhood have been blank for years, and she has been trying to figure out why. Then this relative was recently arrested for molesting her daughter, and her entire world came crashing down, shattering into pieces as she learns about more and more victims in her own family who were raped by this monster, one of whom she thinks even bore his child.

Thank goodness, he is behind bars right now, but who knows for how long, and had he been prosecuted when this pattern first began decades ago, the later victims would have been spared.

LIKED (3) REPLY SHARE

Butternut Saskatoon Butternut's Substack Apr 13
Liked by Margaret Anna Alice

"I've increasingly grown to accept the necessity of eradicating pathogenic, irredeemable dark-triad deviants who pose a grave threat to the rest of humanity, especially when their powers are so grotesquely, almost supernaturally (and maybe actually, as you suggest) magnified by wealth, resources, and alliances with fellow cruelties."

BINGO! You hit the nail right on the head with the irredeemable!!!

LIKED (3) REPLY (1) SHARE

Margaret Anna Alice Apr 13
Author

Thank you, Butternut Saskatoon. It is not a position I arrived at lightly, but I do understand the necessity of it now.

LIKED (3) REPLY SHARE

john robinson john's Substack Apr 15
Liked by Margaret Anna Alice

As many of us are aware wrongful convictions are a problem for capital punishment.... (aren't they?) Moratoriums on capital punishment occur for a REASON... don't they? Lookey here https://cwc.law.northwestern.edu/about-cwc/ Whether deterrence is provable or not, taking innocent lives in the name of deterrence or of so called "justice" is immoral and can't be justified. Take a look here https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC4034186/ for stats on wrongful convictions ( exonerations) The "Inuit approach" seems somewhat well suited for small village or band level organizations but not for entire societies involving hundreds of millions. I.e. a single Inuit can't be divided to produce meaningful statistics on wrongful conviction. A sample size of ONE is absolutely meaningless. Another abstraction; should state sponsored terrorists like ALL former and current U.S. Presidents (have been)be subjected to the death penalty for their obviously murderous assaults on humanity over the centuries? After all, proof of their murders are beyond dispute and are a matter of historical record. No? Well, I guess not because capital punishment is reserved for the powerless. Isn't it?

LIKED (2) REPLY SHARE

KundaliniAndCellTowers KundaliniAndCellTowers Apr 20
Liked by Margaret Anna Alice

Evil lies within all of us. It is a matter of incentives and disincentives to keep it in check. South Africa had its "truth and reconciliation" process. But given the state of affairs in that country today, I am not sure it helped much. Justice becomes murkier when the machinery of the state itself is wielded against the citizens. Many more people become complicit. See Arendt's Eichmann in Jerusalem for more. There must be a consequence for people who say, "I was just doing my job," "Just signing the paperwork," "Just called in absent that day," et cetera. In the aftermath of 9/11 not a single bureaucrat or official who was in a position to stop it, but did not, was prosecuted or even demoted. Not one. Post COVID, all the perpetrators, and there were seemingly millions, claim innocence due to "fog of war," "limited knowledge," et cetera; and Trump has yet to prosecute one bad actor, yet the courts, for what they are, have found him guilty of dozens of "crimes." .6 protesters remain in jail at this time, guilty of pretty much nothing but political entrapment. I have issues with mistakes that can be made by the justice system. If an innocent life is taken without just cause, there is really no remedy for that. I believe that only God can grant or cancel a life. We need to see major civil and criminal penalties applied to 1000s of perpetrators serving the US military and pharmaceutical empire. I think supermax prisons like we see operated in El Salvador are a just and humane response. No bed, no comfort, no pleasant quiet space for the evil to write their memories and grow a fan base. Just silence and isolation. And creating an incentive structure within the prison so that it comes as close as possible to paying for itself is one more step toward reducing the drain on society that sociopaths and others unable or unwilling to do the right thing present us with. The prison has to be a place where no one, I mean no one, would want to be. I'll leave this final thought. I took a course on Gandhi's practice of "ahimsa," or nonviolence. People remember him for his civil disobedience. But Gandhi did say that, with respect to a rabid dog, that the least violent response to that dog would be to kill it, so as to prevent further harm. I guess it is common knowledge that there is no coming back from being stricken with rabies. So, I am comfortable leaving the door open to state sanctioned murder of certain people who are determined to be irredeemable; and whose death would serve as an appropriate example to others.

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