

Code of Ethics

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1 Introduction

1.1 Primary axioms

Beauty is the dominant eigenvalue: univocal with Truth and Goodness, it is the essence of existence, the First Cause through which all of reality has its being. All of reality tends to converge to Beauty, but this can only happen through ultimate balance, which is achieved through honesty and self-discipline. This document serves to outline the ethical code by which I live my life; the rules which I believe are conducive to honest convergence to Beauty.

1.2 On Religion

Perhaps there isn't one set of beliefs, and associated rules and restrictions, that is inherently correct. In fact, I would even say I highly doubt that such a religious cult exists; truth is Beauty, which is infinite, and unattainable in its completeness, to us mortal humans. But I do think that it is important to pick a religion, a set of rules, and follow them.

“But why would I do that if all of them are wrong?” Good question! I'm glad you asked.

British statistician George Box once said, “All models are wrong, but some are useful”. This was with regards to mathematical models that describe phenomena observed through data, but I think it is also highly relevant with respect to religion. For what is a religion, if not a proposed model for the underlying phenomenon that caused the world to be? And just like how the field of statistics is extraordinarily useful, despite most of its models being wrong in practice, so too do I think that religion can be extremely useful to one's journey in convergence to Beauty. Because most religions, I think, reflect some element of Beauty (in my experience, some more strongly than others, but that may just be my subjective perception). But I think the more knowledgeable you are about the philosophy and/or theology of a religion, and the more intimately familiar you are with it, the more potential it has to be useful in your convergence to Beauty. Thus it is important to, at least at first, pick one and dedicate yourself wholeheartedly to it, studying works by its great thinkers, and allowing its code of

ethics to shape your conscience and to acquaint you to the Divine Essence of Beauty. Just like how, in set theory, our choice to include the empty set in every set vacuously was arbitrary, making the decision one way or another is integral to the foundation of every branch of mathematics.

2 Specific Moral Guidelines

Through my studies, I have found several principles from different religions which I believe to be conducive to attaining teleology (Beauty). In light of my experiences, theological and philosophical readings, and personal spiritual revelations, I aim to adhere to the following goals and guidelines in my life:

The Way of Strategy:

- #2.1: *Do not think dishonestly*
- #2.2: *The Way is in training*
- #2.3: *Become acquainted with every art*
- #2.4: *Know the Ways of all professions*
- #2.5: *Distinguish between gain and loss in worldly matters*
- #2.6: *Develop intuitive judgement and understanding for everything*
- #2.7: *Perceive those things which cannot be seen*
- #2.8: *Pay attention even to trifles*
- #2.9: *Do nothing which is of no use*

The Satanic Temple:

- #3.1: *One should strive to act with compassion and empathy toward all creatures in accordance with reason*
- #3.2: *The struggle for justice is an ongoing and necessary pursuit that should prevail over laws and institutions.*
- #3.3: *One's body is inviolable, subject to one's own will alone.*
- #3.4: *The freedoms of others should be respected, including the freedom to offend. To willfully and unjustly encroach upon the freedoms of another is to forgo one's own.*
- #3.5: *Beliefs should conform to one's best scientific understanding of the world. One should take care never to distort scientific facts to fit one's beliefs.*
- #3.6: *People are fallible. If one makes a mistake, one should do one's best to rectify it and resolve any harm that might have been caused.*
- #3.7: *Every tenet is a guiding principle designed to inspire nobility in action and thought. The spirit of compassion, wisdom, and justice should always prevail over the written or spoken word.*

Benedictine Charism:

- #1.1: *Ora et labora et Deus Providabit (Pray and Work and God will provide)*

Furthermore, I aim to keep my view of the world (in every sense, including

philosophical, religious, and scientific) current and updated by striving towards the following ideals:

Gelman's 7 Virtues:

#4.1 *Transparency*

- Clear and unambiguous definitions of concepts
- Open planning and following agreed protocols
- Full communication of reasoning, procedures, spelling out of (potentially unverifiable) assumptions and potential limitations

#4.2 *Consensus*

- Accounting for relevant knowledge and existing related work
- Following generally accepted rules where possible and reasonable
- Provision of rationales for consensus and unification

#4.3 *Impartiality*

- Thorough consideration of relevant and potentially competing theories and points of view
- Thorough consideration and if possible removal of potential biases: factors that may jeopardize consensus and the intended interpretation of results
- Openness to criticism and change

#4.4 *Correspondance to Observable Reality*

- Clear connection of concepts and models to observables
- Clear conditions for reproduction, testing and falsification

#4.5 *Awareness of Multiple Perspectives*

#4.6 *Awareness of Context Dependence*

- Recognition of dependence on specific contexts and aims
- Honest acknowledgement of the researcher's position, goals, experiences and subjective point of view

#4.7 *Investigation of Stability*

- Consequences of alternative decisions and assumptions that could have been made
- Variability and reproducibility of conclusions on new data

I aim to keep every procedure of inquiry about any element of the world (philosophical, religious, or scientific) as close as possible to the satisfaction of the following:

Mayo's Principles of Objectivity:

#5.1 *Relevance*: It should be relevant to learning about what is being measured [or investigated]; having an uncontroversial way to measure something is not enough to make it relevant to solving a knowledge-based problem of inquiry.

#5.2 *Reliably Capable*: It should not routinely declare the problem solved when it is not (or solved incorrectly); it should be capable of controlling reports of erroneous solutions to problems with reliability.

#5.3 *Able to Learn from Error*: If the problem is not solved (or poorly solved) at a given point, the method should set the stage for pinpointing why.

Finally, in all areas of my life I aim to adhere to the four aspects of the ATOM principle proposed by Wasserstein, et al in 2019:

#6.1 *Accept Uncertainty*

#6.2 *Be Thoughtful*

#6.3 *Be Open*

#6.4 *Be Modest*

This code of Ethics was last updated 2021-01-23.