

Thelemic Ethics

Samadhi Camp OTO 3/20/10

DISCLAIMER

"Those who discuss the contents of this Book are to be shunned by all, as centres of pestilence.

All questions of the Law are to be decided only by appeal to my writings, each for himself."

-The Comment to Liber AL vel Legis

Welcome to Pestilence Theatre.

Old Aeon Ethics

- ◆Not my will but thine be done
- ◆There is no god but God...
- ♦In the beginning was the Word, and the word was God
- ◆Do unto others as you would have them do unto you

External source of authority.

Objective definition of virtue.

New Aeon Ethics

- ◆Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.
- ◆There is no god but Man
- ightharpoonup The word of the Law is Θ E Λ HMA
- ◆Do unto others as they would have you do unto them

Internal source of authority.

Subjective definition of virtue.

Ethics in Relation to the Self

- o "Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law."
- o "Love is the Law, love under will."
- o "Thou hast no right but to do thy will."
- o "The word of Sin is Restriction."

Ethics in Relation to the Self

- Ritual of "Will": everything is done to further the goal of accomplishing your Great Work.
- Figuring out what your Great Work is is in itself the work of a lifetime.
- You are the center of your universe.

"Thou hast no right but to do thy will."

"...any possible act is to be performed if it is a necessary factor in that Equation of your Will. Any act that is not such a factor, however harmless, noble, virtuous or what not, is at the best a waste of energy. The standard of conduct has one single touchstone. There may be - there will be - every kind of difficulty in determining whether, by this standard, any given act is 'right' or 'wrong'; but there should be no confusion. No act is righteous in itself, but only in reference to the True Will of the person who proposes to perform it."

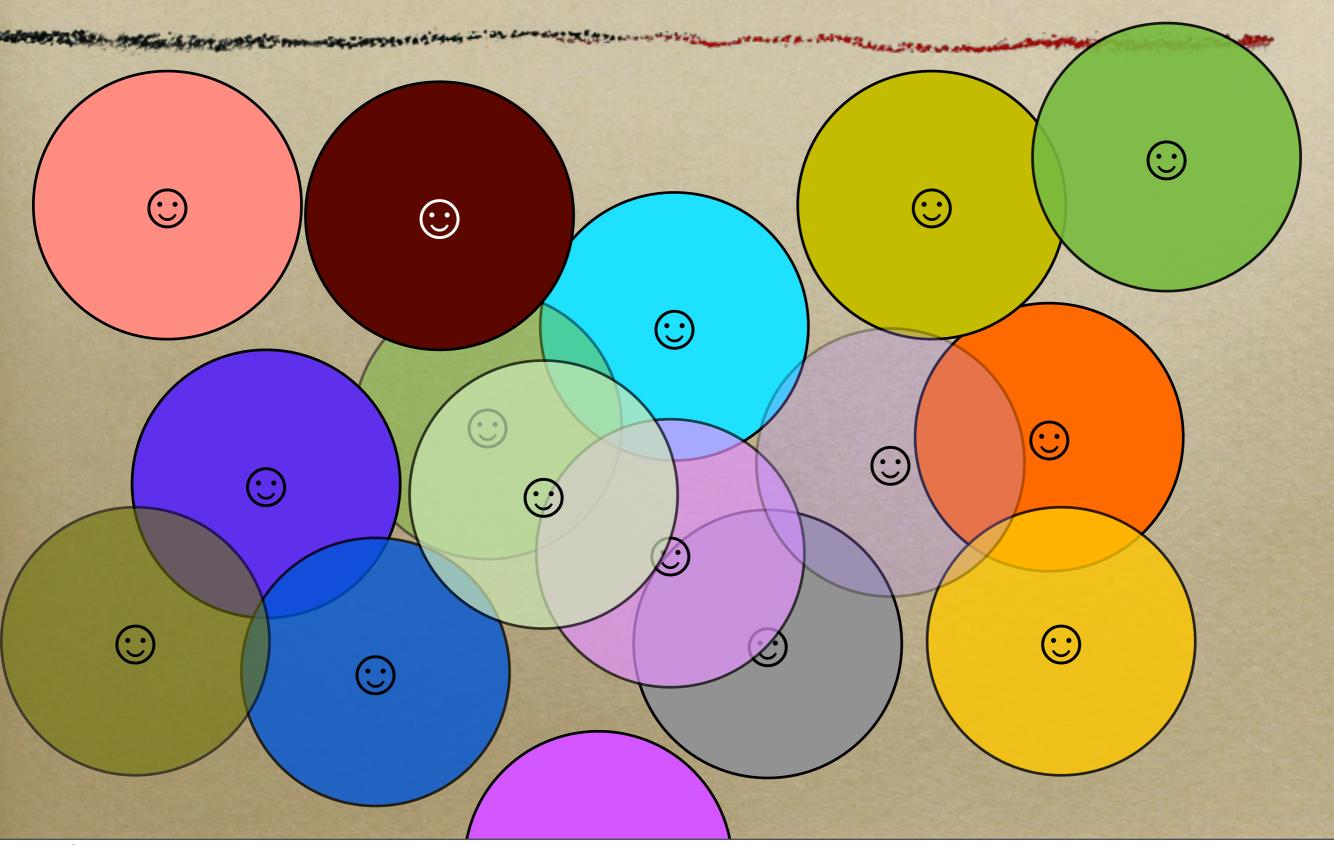
-Magick Without Tears, ch. 70 'Morality (1)'

"Veil not your vices in virtuous words: these vices are my service."

"You know how all our faults love to disguise themselves as virtues; very often, as what our neighbours call virtues, not what we ourselves think them. We are all ashamed to be ourselves; and this is sheer, stark stultification. For we are ourselves; we cannot get away from it; all our hypocrisies and shams are just as much part of ourselves as what we like to think is the real man. All that we do when we make these pretences is to set up internal strain and conflict; there is nothing objective in it. Instead of adding to our experience, which is the Great Work, we shut ourselves up in this citadel of civil turmoil; it is the Formula of the Black Brothers."

-Magick Without Tears, ch. 33 'The Golden Mean'

When Universes Collide



When Universes Collide

Every single person has the same rights that you do. The same self-determination. And every single person is the center of their own moral universe.

Every single thing you consider true and right and virtuous might not be so for the person next to you. And THAT'S OKAY. In fact, it's the only way that this can work at all.

Ethics in Relation to Others

- o "Every man and every woman is a Star."
- "Fear not at all; fear neither men nor Fates, nor gods, nor anything. Money fear not, nor laughter of the folk folly, nor any other power in heaven or upon the earth or under the earth."
- "To each man and woman that thou meetest, were it but to dine or to drink at them, it is the Law to give. Then they shall chance to abide in this bliss or no; it is no odds."

"Mercy let be off: damn them who pity! Kill and torture; spare not; be upon them!"

"The basis of our criminal law is simple, by virtue of Thelema: to violate the right of another is to forfeit one's own claim to protection in the matter involved."

-Magick Without Tears, ch. 49 'Thelemic Morality'

"Thou hast the right to kill those who would thwart these rights."

-Liber OZ

Things to Ponder

- How do you deal with those who believe their morality should be imposed on others?
- How do you respect a child's Will while teaching them how to survive in a world that does not?
- How can an organization composed of Highly Individual People have a coherent focus and mission?