



Toolkit 5 - Worksheet 5d – A Summary of Humanist Ethical Views

Questions:

1. What should you do, in order to be 'good' or 'do what's right'?
2. Who or what tells you what is right or wrong?
3. Why should you try to do what is right?
4. Is there any way in which bad actions are punished and good actions rewarded, like karma, reincarnation, heaven or hell?

Humanist answers:

1. You should try to lead a full and happy life without harming others. One way to do this is to help other people to do the same.
2. You use human nature to decide what is right and wrong. There is no god or holy book to turn to.
3. The use of reason and empathy helps us live well together in groups. Those who care about others and act on it usually have better relationships and more fulfilling lives - they are happier.
4. The world is full of injustice - but being good and trying to do the right thing generally helps you live happily with other people. There is no life after death. We should make the best of the one life we know we have. We should try to make the world a better place, because we can empathise with the suffering of others. Any rewards and punishments we may receive are here and now.