

Relativism

Sociology



Relativism It is undeniable that one of the most highly valued virtues is forgiveness. Many societies and cultures across the world consider forgiveness among the virtues that hold the society together. People are expected to forgive and forget the wrong done to them by others. Most of the cultures that are primarily based on Christianity uphold forgiveness as one of the top virtues. This is not surprising considering the fact that Christianity is based on forgiveness of sin. Likewise, Christian societies and cultures built on Christian grounds become a forgiving society. However, this is quite different from cultures based on Islam. Although Islamic religion upholds forgiveness as a virtue, there is an appreciable deviation from this virtue. Islamic-based cultures opt to have everyone accountable for their own actions (Ferrante, 2012). It is therefore, not surprising that most terrorist groups are claimed to come from Islamic communities. Instead of forgiveness, they prefer that justice be done to offenders.

The above example can lead to relativism. Whereas one culture believes that forgiveness is a core prerequisite of greater good of the society, the other culture believes that each bad action deserves equal punishment. Both cultures can justify their reasoning. For instance, Christian based cultures may reason that forgiveness is an act of love that teaches the others not to do the same bad act and that even the bad people in the society deserves a second chance. On the other hand, Islamic-based cultures may argue that punishment is the best method of deterring others from doing the same act. According to them, harsh punishment takes precedent over forgiveness. This is a good example of relativism.

Reference

<https://assignbuster.com/relativism/>

Ferrante, J. (2012). *Sociology: A Global Perspective*. London: Cengage Learning.