

What in my essay, i will take two

[Profession](#), [Philosophers](#)



What is the true purpose of the religion? From the Socratic times, people ask questions like “ Who I am ?” “ Who is my creator ?” “ What I should do or not do ?”. These questions impacted people, philosophers to study Theology, the study of unmoved mover (God), and later to form the concept of “ religion”.

Which is failed to be defined because of the difference of views about its functioning or purpose. There is the myriad of thoughts about the true target of the religion, but the most general one is that the largest religions (Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism) teach us noble qualities such as love, peace, moral and justice. However, others consider that the true purpose is to control the society. Since the religions play an important role in our life, I strongly believe that the given ambiguity should not be ignored by society. In this paper, I am going to show that the true purpose of the religion can be considered differently by interpretivists and positivists but the purpose is the same. Which is to control the society. Also, in my essay, I will take two the largest religions (Christianity and Islam) as the examples and explode them. This is because they cover more than the half of population.

2 According to Gosling, “ Positivism is originated as a philosophy of science... Scientific inquiry is based on the systematic accumulation of “ facts” rather than on beliefs, opinion tradition or divine revelation...

” (Gosling, 2005; 73) So, we cannot determine the religion as a science, because it accumulates beliefs and faith. But in any way, let’s analyze the facts that we have about the religion. First one is the existence of rituals such as celebrating Christmas, and five pillars of Islam.

These rituals must be followed by religion people. The second one is the existence of the sacred/religious texts in the Bible and Quran, respectively. In given books, there are a collection of texts, rules and stories for their followers. Why all of them created? To describe it I will give you a simple example. Suppose, the parents said to his child do not go out of the house or otherwise he will be punished.

Consequently, a child would not go out of the house or he will be stopped by his parents for an attempt to go out. Thus, parents want to control the child by creating some rules and conditions as same as the religion created mentioned rituals and the holy books in order to control the society and show the certain way. Therefore, I induce that each of religions was created by a group of people in ancient times with the purpose of control societies. Nevertheless, these days the phenomena of religion is control humanity by social constructionism, not the mentioned group people. According to Gosling, interpretivists believe that people interpret situations in which they find themselves and act on the basis of these interpretations. (Gosling, 2005; 75) So, by the interpretivist approach, religion followers tend to think that they should understand the meaning of sacred things and the whole world. Since notwithstanding the fact that religions have not clear and justified arguments for its doctrine, it formally answers to questions like "What would be with me after the death?", "What is the meaning of the life?" and "Does god exist?".

Which are certainly one of the most asked questions by humanity. That is why people want to believe in religion because religion answers the questions

which have not generally accepted answers. Functionalists like Durkheim believes that religious rituals maintain the social integration. 4 Consequently, functionalists believe that religion defend social stability by answering these questions.

According to traditional functionalists and Marxists, religion is kind of external force that created to mould the people into social conformity. 7 Therefore, religion is a tool for controlling the society. Taking into account all above mentioned facts, I can conclude that the concepts of philosophy helped me to investigate the true purpose of the religion. Which is defined differently by positivists and non-positivist but has the similar outcome for the ambiguity of purpose. Overall, the true purpose of the religion is the controlling the society. However, we should consider the other philosophical concepts like essentialism and utilitarianism. The first concept argues that if religion exists from the ancient times, it must have some essence that people used find natural. 5 The utilitarian doctrine describes religion as the right and useful concept because it provides happiness and beneficial consequences for the majority of people. 6