

Critical thinking

Philosophy



Critical thinking Tao Te Ching by Lao Tzu According to Laozi, war is a natural phenomenon which has been born out of human existence and interaction. Laozi considers violence as a bad thing, but one that has been created in the course of nature. He considers weapons as ill-omened things which human beings should not use negatively, but instead use them only if it is necessary (Bell 2009). So I think Laozi's attitude towards violence is that violence is natural but we should avoid it if we can. This relates to the views of Mathew 5 because Mathew 5 also argues that "blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of Christ, for they shall inherit the Kingdom." In this case, the bible also sees violence (persecution) as a natural thing which people should tolerate.

The Bhagavad Gita

Arjuna's perceptions of his enemies as fathers, sons, brothers, teachers etc can be applied in my day to day existence because I always encounter things in my life that may seem as if I am fighting against my subconscious mind. In order to do what is right, I have to confront the wrong things even if it involves fighting against my negative side and those of my own people. In places such as long lines in the market and in jams, I will always fight against those negative thoughts that tell me to overtake others in the line, and it makes me to tolerate the long lines and become patient.

Plato's Crito

Plato thinks that public opinion should not determine how we behave. We should not worry about public opinion but about how we behave. According to Plato, public opinion should only be used to derive wise and expert advice and not to be used to determine one's behaviour. One of the values that Socrates values more than life is obeying the law (Kraut 1984). Socrates <https://assignbuster.com/critical-thinking-critical-essay-samples-2/>

considered whether it was just or unjust for him to escape, not what people are saying. If I were Crito, I would argue that although it is unjust to leave prison, the moral value of taking care of family should be precedent over any law; being accused by the state unjustly was by itself against that moral value. So Socrates should have fought against that injustice by leaving the prison.

Mathew 5-7

According to Jesus, the purpose of good conduct is for God and others to see. Being good enables people to be light of the world and salt of the earth. This means that being good sets a good example for others to emulate and makes one to be accepted in the society and have a good image in the public. According to my experience, being good enables me to gain respect from people. Whenever I did good things in the past, people congratulated me and gave me presents.

Sermon at Benares

Non-monks can attain Nirvana as long as they practice good deeds such as loving kindness, liberation of heart, justice, modesty, and every path that is right. Buddhism is more exclusive than Christianity because it suggests that the only people who can see Nirvana is the one who follows the middle path. In this case, Buddhism considers people who pursue extreme riches are not considered worthy of immortality and Nirvana. However, Christianity accommodates the rich and the poor equally as long as they pursue righteousness.

Works cited

Bell, Daniel A. Confucian Political Ethics. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 2009. Print.

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Kraut, Richard. Socrates and the State. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University. 1984. Print.