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Discussion Anit-religious themes in Bloodborne.

submitted 9 months ago by Underwhere_Overthere

The Souls games have always been anti-religious with the way they portray religious authority figures and gods, especially in Demon's Souls. To be honest, I'm surprised Reddit is hyped for a game like this given how religiously sensitive they are towards everything.

Anyway, how does everyone feel about the themes in this game so far? I haven't gotten around to playing it, but is religion portrayed as an affliction? The reason I ask is because GameSpot started out their review with "The opiate of the masses." And how do you think that will affect sales and its reception to Americans, who are still deeply religious?

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[–] **Nachtkater** **3 points** 9 months ago

Seriously?

I am christian and don't give shit. It's a game, pure ficion (and I am aware same can be said about the bible, yeah...) and I play to entertain me, not to practice my faith.

No big deal. Though I never felt offended at all in any souls game so far. There is worse stuff out there for sure.

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[–] **Ganshma** **1 point** 9 months ago

Agreed.

(Also nothing in the game is anti-religious. Everything in the game is shown as corrupted thanks to the beasts and I do find this following line from the OP hilarious:

"The Souls games have always been anti-religious with the way they portray religious authority figures and gods, especially in Demon's Souls."

Yep that's news to me. Dark Souls had typical Greek gods, one of whom sacrificed himself to save humanity from the dark we saw in Oolacile which contrary to the lying serpent Kaathe, is actually harmful to humanity. Demon's Souls had the "Old One" a vessel created by God to give humans magic and miracles that was corrupted by humanity's lust for souls - particularly King Allant - and yearned for souls to go back to sleep.

For more on Dark Souls and religion, see this post on GameFaqs I found that describes everything better than I:

http://www.gamefaqs.com/boards/693331-dark-souls-ii/71522419

The OP is grasping at straws or trolling (which his sentence of "I'm surprised Reddit is hyped for a game like this given how religiously sensitive they are towards everything" kinda hints towards. Apparently r/atheism doesn't exist in this guy's world)

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[–] **ShawntezPhillips** **1 point** 9 months ago

Honestly all ive figured out is maybe im in a dream and the people are bad at knock knock jokes.

But im really getting into the lore this time around, i just need more time to...analyze

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[–] **Donates88** **0 points** 9 months ago

If you see the end many things will clear up ;)

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[–] **DerClogger** PS4 PSN: DerClogger **1 point** 9 months ago

People who get up in arms about religion and people who really want to buy Bloodborne are not two groups of people I imagine overlapping much.

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[–] **BrySigh** **1 point** 9 months ago

what

%90'of reedit is atheists

obvious troll is obvious

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[–] **TIMB0** **1 point** 9 months ago

Its definitely not anywhere near 90%

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[–] **Nachtkater** **2 points** 9 months ago

More like 90% that don't feel the need to make a big debate of it...

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[–] **christianwayne** **1 point** 9 months ago

Are saying its higher or lower than 90%?

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[–] **TIMB0** **1 point** 9 months ago

Much lower

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[–] **tree_D** **0 points** 9 months ago

Well I'm not buying the game because of these themes. I know that the religion portrayed isn't Christianity, but its pretty obvious what developers are trying to portray organized religion. To be clear I'm not buying it because I would feel conflicted about how my religion is portrayed in the game, but rather what the developer's goal is.

I know most people on here (most are atheists) will laugh at this comment, but I know that there are some people on reddit that can respect a person for what they stand for.

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[–] **Underwhere_Overthere** **1 point** 9 months ago

Just because it criticizes religion doesn't mean you have to be against it.

I went to Catholic schools all my life, and guess who were the most open to criticism more than anyone? My religion teachers. Yes, they enjoyed hearing those sides and recognized the importance of dissent with something as controversial as religion.

You don't have to agree with every theme in the game to appreciate the message. But organized religion does have some bad points that are worth exploring in a narrative. And there are good points too, of course, but the game is specifically trying to send an important message to people that may influence a different way of thinking than they normally do.

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[–] **Ganshma** **1 point** 9 months ago

What points would those be?

You say it criticizes religion but nothing in the game does. The Church is shown as now corrupt along with everything else in the world which fits the dark fantasy theme in the game. The remaining vicars have turned into beasts (along with everyone else) and you even fight one worshipping a beast's skull on a desecrated altar.

I don't see that as anti-religion though, rather, a theme that everything in the world of Bloodborne is now corrupt.

On the alternative, the Vilebloods who opposed the Church are shown to be filthy murderers who delight in the bloodshed of monsters and humans. If you take the Healing Church as Christians, then should we take the Vilebloods as atheist?

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[–] **aboutcheese** **-1 points** 9 months ago

Yea its pretty clear what the developers are trying to portray about religion here. I'm honestly surprised how many religious people on reddit actually find this game okay... whatever

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[–] **romoball91** **1 point** 9 months ago

lol you're ganna get hit hard brah

But anyways I kinda agree with what you're saying. You can't deny the concepts that the story brings out in this game.

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