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Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #301

Tell me something: say you're walking through the woods and you come across a tree that has the word "TREE" carved right into it. Would you think that the tree's bark just happened to form in such a way, or that some kind of animal just happened to make claw marks on the tree in exactly

AngryRabbit
Noob

Joined: Aug 24, 2001
Messages: 358

that shape; or would you simply think a person with a knife came and carved it in there?

Presuming you have some semblance of sanity, I don't think it would be too much of a jump to say you'd assume the latter. Now, consider this: the coincedences I mentioned in my post above are all much, much more unlikely then a tree's bark just happening to form with the word 'TREE' carved into it. After all, while that's also unlikely, it's not too far-fetched, considering trees do often form some sort of pattern in their bark. Evolution, on the other hand, would literally be all but impossible to happen as perfectly as it did without something guiding it. Yet why do you assume that this couldn't have happened through some sort of sentient being guiding it and at the same time instantly jump to assuming it was the working of a sentinent being if you were to see the tree with 'TREE' carved into it?

With great power must come great responsibility...

AngryRabbit, Apr 26, 2003 Report

timmyjoe012345
Noob

Joined: Aug 22, 2002
Messages: 15,764

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #302

"The theory of evolution essentially states that if you take a species and put them in a certain enviornment, only those best adapted to such an enviornment will survive, and therefore only those members of the species that survive by adaptation to the enviornment would be able to reproduce to pass down their genes."

This is actually another theory called natural selection.

"Eventually, by continuing this process through many generations, the result would eventually be a new species that almost seems especially designed for the enviornment it's in."

If this process continues the light gray ones will be gone leaving the dark gray ones. With the new speices is where evolution comes in.

"Now, what does this have to do with God, you ask? Well, while that basic principle of evolution which I explained above seems to make sense, you have to wonder why exactly there were some 'darker' colored moths in the first place? Was it just luck that some of them happened to be a dakrer shade of gray then others so that they would ultimatly serve as the predecessors of a new type of moth for a changing enviornment, enabling the species to survive by change?"

Lots of animals have different colorations on them, including us.

"With something this simplistic, it's not all too hard to attribute such a thing to fortunate coincedence. But when analyzing, say, why certain primates had just the right sets of genes to, under exactly the right circumstances, become beings capable of higher sentient thought as well as the motor

skills (opposable thumbs and intricate hands) and communication abilities (vocal chords) to be able to form socities, the odds become astronomical. Having such precise circumstances would require a coinidence that, by the laws of probability, would almost be impossible without something specifically guiding evolution in that direction."

Yes evolution is guiding it itself. Evolution did not give us knowledge. We used our developed brains to learn ourselves.

"If that isn't enough of a coincedence for you, though, you also have to consider what caused any life on this planet to be able to evolve in the first place. Random molecules just happened to form genetic codes that would be able to duplicate and thrive in exactly the place they happened to form? And the enviornmental conditions just happened to be exactly right through the billions of years of evolution for higher life to slowly survive? It seems, to me at least, almost certain that some divine hand must have been guiding this process."

The conditions were not exactly right. Have you ever heard of a mass extinction. At times in history up to 80% of all life on earth has been wiped out because of the changing earth. The life forms adapted by evolution. They were forced to evolve. The very first life on earth was a single cell organism called protozoa. The protozoa formed when ocean waves pushed together different materials lying in the ocean itself. Then the protozoa evolved to fit it's location. When life wandered on land it evolved again to be livible on land.

"Also, if you're looking at history from a really wide perspective, ask yourself this: Why would the same planet able to evolve such a species like humanity also just happen to have exactly the right elements on it so that one day such a human species would be able to form elements into tools for further use? Isn't it amazing that we just happen to have, on the same planet that 'just happened' to evolve human life, the precise minerals that, if formed properly by precisely the right mind and hand that humans were given, could be made into a computer? Another fact that, for me, seems to prove that something much greater then we could comprehend had a hand in the forming of this planet."

We used what we have to make what we can. Those elements aren't there for the purpose of making a computer. The advanced minds evolution gave us allowed us to manipulate these elements into the items we have today.

"I'm sure a lot of people will be stubborn and say that this is nothing more then chance, a ridiculous coincedence. But to me, and hopefully to other people reading this, this will serve as evidence that there is something out there beyond any of us."

This is definatley not an coincedence, nor is it the proof I was expecting.

---

oh my hero, so far away now. Will I ever see your smile?
Love goes away, like night into day. It's just a fading dream.
I'm the darkness, your the stars. Our love is brighter than the sun.
For eternity, for me there can be, only you my chosen one.-FF6

timmyjoe012345, Apr 26, 2003 Report

MegaVolt67
16-bit Mod

Joined: Jun 7, 2001
Messages: 17,402

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #303

Humans are different. I don't believe that we do evolve and adapt to our evironment. Unlike every other species, we are incapable of establishing an equilibrium with our evironment. We're using up the resources on this planet to exhaustion. Nature might be perfect, but we're far from it. Some take that as proof that a god must exist. The way I see, it just doesn't make sense. We will eventually prove to be too much of a burden to the planet. I don't know if this is supposed to be part of God's grand design, but I don't feel too special knowing what my race is doing to this planet. And to blame all misfortunes on Satan strikes me as too simplistic. Satan was created by God too. So if God can see all, then why bother setting all this into motion? Not only that, but everything was supposedly black before the Earth came about. So what was God doing all that time before he created the Earth then? Creating and hanging with his Angels? This existence seems meaningless, and we use religion in an attempt to give it meaning. I don't know if those people who wrote the books in the Bible really had divine influence or not. They claim to, but humans cannot be trusted. You must treat everything with skepticism. If a sole God does exist, I really wish he'd let me know. Putting me through this difficulty as a test is silly. Just for the purpose of judging me as good or bad? I am...me. I don't know if people can truly be labeled as good or bad. We just...live. I'll do some good things, and I'll do some bad things. So I'm supposed to be unable to avoid "bad", because it's human nature. Fine. If I was made to be that way, it makes no sense to get mad at me for it. And I believe that we're all just as unable to avoid being good sometimes too. The duality of humanity. It just makes no damn sense.

Youtube channel: http://www.youtube.com/user/megavolt67
VGM collection: http://vgmdb.net/db/collection.php?do=view&userid=136

MegaVolt67, Apr 26, 2003 Report

AngryRabbit
Noob

Joined: Aug 24, 2001
Messages: 358

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #304

"Yes evolution is guiding it itself. Evolution did not give us knowledge. We used our developed brains to learn ourselves."

The rest of your argument seems to be based around the same principle: the aforementioned events were not coincedence because evolution is guiding itself. But that instantly implies there is some kind of will behind evolution, therefore agreeing with the fact that some force was behind it. The theory of evolution in and of itself says nothing of evolution being any kind of force that somehow guides itself to create the right conditions and the right genes to survive in such conditions, it simply says that evolution is a process that makes new species form through natural selection when the right conditions and the right genes are already there in the first place. By

implying that some force other then fortunate coincedence has been guiding evolution, you are saying that you believe in some 'higher force' even though it has no real scientific evidence behind it, therefore renouncing atheism.

With great power must come great responsibility...

AngryRabbit, Apr 26, 2003 Report

-Lenin-
Noob

Joined: Apr 24, 2002
Messages: 18,711

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #305

Consider for a minute this:

We, as human beings, are capable of understanding a wide range of things.

We are also capable of seeing things that we cannot understand, and never will.

This makes us very unique.

Re:Any legit use for 3127? (Score:5, Funny)
by nmoog (701216) on Monday February 09, @09:45PM (#8234397)
Yeah, port 3127 is used for DoS attacks on Microsoft. Its best to leave it open.
[Reply to This | Parent]

-Lenin-, Apr 26, 2003 Report

timmyjoe012345
Noob

Joined: Aug 22, 2002
Messages: 15,764

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #306

"The rest of your argument seems to be based around the same principle: the aforementioned events were not coincedence because evolution is guiding itself. But that instantly implies there is some kind of will behind evolution, therefore agreeing with the fact that some force was behind it. The theory of evolution in and of itself says nothing of evolution being any kind of force that somehow guides itself to create the right conditions and the right genes to survive in such conditions, it simply says that evolution is a process that makes new species form through natural selection when the right conditions and the right genes are already there in the first place. By implying that some force other then fortunate coincedence has been guiding evolution, you are saying that you believe in some 'higher force' even though it has no real scientific evidence behind it, therefore renouncing atheism."

It really is humorous how a simple misunderstood sentence can be taken out of contex so severly. What I mean is that evolution happens a certain way because that is what we need to survive at the moment. Our bodies aren't stupid. They know what we need. That is what scientists mean by adapt. Evolution adapts us to the dangers of the enviroment around us. That is why life has been able to survive for so long. Not once did I

denounce atheism in my post. I think you are trying to convert me from atheism too hard. We both had our says. I respect your beliefs and you respect mine. There really is no reason to argue. So can we accept each other?

oh my hero, so far away now. Will I ever see your smile?
Love goes away, like night into day. It's just a fading dream.
I'm the darkness, your the stars. Our love is brighter than the sun.
For eternity, for me there can be, only you my chosen one.-FF6

timmyjoe012345, Apr 26, 2003 Report

MegaVolt67
16-bit Mod

Joined: Jun 7, 2001
Messages: 17,402

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #307

(Responding to Lenin's post)
That really bothers me. What is the point in humans having an awareness that is beyond what is necessary for survival? Every other animal seems to have an awareness only for that purpose. Survival. But not us. We have more, and all it serves to do is cause us confusion. We think and think, but often simply end up confused. Some believe that this extra awareness lends credence to the existence of a god... Perhaps so. But that's not something I'm going to infer from such a complex and impossible to support notion.

Youtube channel: http://www.youtube.com/user/megavolt67
VGM collection: http://vgmdb.net/db/collection.php?do=view&userid=136

MegaVolt67, Apr 26, 2003 Report

ShadowSora
Guest

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #308

AngryRabbit, you know that your tree bark metaphore is completely meaningless.

ShadowSora, Apr 26, 2003 Report

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #309

Megavolt, that's what having faith is for. It may be hard to believe, but what is wrong with believing anyways? You may wish to have a reason to believe, but should reasons be necessary? I believe in god, and I have my reasons. I don't need those reasons to believe though.

Bugenhagen in FFVII said something like "Looking up too much makes

Bucko57
Noob

Joined: Sep 2, 2000
Messages: 2,310

you lose perspective." It's not a bad idea to look up at the stars sometimes, but doing it too much can make you forget what is going on around you. Which is more important?

http://www.badastronomy.com/

Bucko57, Apr 26, 2003 Report

---

timmyjoe012345
Noob

Joined: Aug 22, 2002
Messages: 15,764

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #310

Well, you have to decide for yourself what ideals are best for you. If questioning the very existance of your diety or believing that other dieties may be real then agnostic is right for you. If you find the existance of a god is illogical then atheism will fit perfect for you. It's all a matter of what is best for you. Some people need religion to function, and some people can function just fine without it.

oh my hero, so far away now. Will I ever see your smile?
Love goes away, like night into day. It's just a fading dream.
I'm the darkness, your the stars. Our love is brighter than the sun.
For eternity, for me there can be, only you my chosen one.-FF6

timmyjoe012345, Apr 26, 2003 Report

-Lenin-
Noob

Joined: Apr 24, 2002
Messages: 18,711

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #311

I can see so much that I am unable to comprehend.

The fact that I see it is something intriguing.

It's almost as if we haven't evolved enough yet.

Re:Any legit use for 3127? (Score:5, Funny)
by nmoog (701216) on Monday February 09, @09:45PM (#8234397)
Yeah, port 3127 is used for DoS attacks on Microsoft. Its best to leave it open.
[Reply to This | Parent]

-Lenin-, Apr 26, 2003 Report

MegaVolt67
16-bit Mod

Joined: Jun 7, 2001

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #312

Bucko, I need reasons to **honestly believe for sure**. You say you believe in God, but do you believe 100%? Or is there just a little bit of doubt there? I can't cover that doubt with faith. I've tried, and I mean tried hard. It got me absolutely nothing. Those preachers tell me, "You have to truly believe it, or it won't happen!" They were referring to speaking in tongues. I couldn't do it. I'd have to believe 100% supposedly, and I can't. I just can't. I don't know how anyone can.

Yeah, I wonder if humans can possibly evolve even more. We better do it

Messages: 17,402

fast though, otherwise we'll destroy ourselves in the meantime.

Youtube channel: http://www.youtube.com/user/megavolt67
VGM collection: http://vgmdb.net/db/collection.php?do=view&userid=136

MegaVolt67, Apr 26, 2003 Report

theunentitled
Level 9999

Joined: Feb 21, 2002
Messages: 20,299

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #313

Maybe we aren't evolved. We say we are, but would we really say otherwise? Other animals don't destroy the universe the way we have...

Dogs love me cause I'm crazy sniffable

Do you see what happens, Larry, when you find a stranger in the Alps?

FYI, I can be used for snu-snu.

theunentitled, Apr 26, 2003 Report

ShadowSora
Guest

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #314

I agree with you, MegaVolt67. Having doubt is part of what makes us human. And trying to force oneself to ignor those doubts, simply because one wants something to be true, is just foolishness.

ShadowSora, Apr 26, 2003 Report

MegaVolt67
16-bit Mod

Joined: Jun 7, 2001
Messages: 17,402

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #315

Oh well, I guess I should be happy that you've allowed it to go on for this long, Drizzt. Still, it kind of sucks. But I know it's OT...

So how does it feel to be the source of all evil, my fellow humans? They say that Satan is the source of all evil. I say that man doesn't need the help.

I wonder if we really have unlimited potential or not? I really don't see how we can ever travel past the speed of light... We don't have the fuel or technology, and we'd become energy and lose our forms at that speed. (Actually, way before it, probably)

Youtube channel: http://www.youtube.com/user/megavolt67
VGM collection: http://vgmdb.net/db/collection.php?do=view&userid=136

MegaVolt67, Apr 26, 2003 Report

theunentitled
Level 9999

Joined: Feb 21, 2002
Messages: 20,299

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #316

I don't think we're evil as much as we don't seem to care about anything but ourselves. Or, is that what evil is?

Dogs love me cause I'm crazy sniffable

Do you see what happens, Larry, when you find a stranger in the Alps?

FYI, I can be used for snu-snu.

theunentitled, Apr 26, 2003 Report

ShadowSora
Guest

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #317

We may not have unlimited potential, but we do have more than we think. Remember, not too long ago (in the scope of human history) we thought electricity was imposible too.

There isn't really such a thing as evil. That's just something that our society has been repeating for thousands of years, to the point where everyone thinks that it's real. In actuality, there is no such thing as evil. What is evil? Is killing something evil? Animals kill eachother all the time, and they don't seem to mind. Evil is just an invention of our bored, overanalysing minds.

ShadowSora, Apr 26, 2003 Report

MegaVolt67
16-bit Mod

Joined: Jun 7, 2001
Messages: 17,402

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #318

Perhaps it is...perhaps it is... Some might try to call it "survival of the fittest", but humans can be cruel beyond anything even remotely having to do with survival... Hmm. Animals don't do that. Oh my... *Is evil*

Yeah, I guess we do have much potential. But somehow I get the feeling that we may be nearing our peak... I guess we'll all find out eventually.

Youtube channel: http://www.youtube.com/user/megavolt67
VGM collection: http://vgmdb.net/db/collection.php?do=view&userid=136

MegaVolt67, Apr 26, 2003 Report

ShadowSora
Guest

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #319

I don't know, I don't think we're all that close to our peak. The human brain still has so much untapped capability: phsycics, scytsofrania (sp), teleconesis...

ShadowSora, Apr 26, 2003 Report

AngryRabbit
Noob

Joined: Aug 24, 2001
Messages: 358

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #320

"There isn't really such a thing as evil. That's just something that our society has been repeating for thousands of years, to the point where everyone thinks that it's real. In actuality, there is no such thing as evil. What is evil? Is killing something evil? Animals kill eachother all the time, and they don't seem to mind. Evil is just an invention of our bored, overanalysing minds."

The first step to becoming evil is denying tha evil exists.

With great power must come great responsibility...

AngryRabbit, Apr 26, 2003 Report

theunentitled
Level 9999

Joined: Feb 21, 2002
Messages: 20,299

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #321

^ *rolls eyes*

As much as I loathe the dumb biblical wording, evil exists. There are things universally loathed. Hitler was evil for example. Beyond things like that....sure, it can go into a grey area, where your society will determine from then on. No one wants to call destuction of the world evil because we're all guilty of it. I'm sure many animals think of us as evil.

Animals kill for food, and to protect themselves, and for mating rights. (they want to see their genes live on -- when humans kill for sex, it's because they want some lovin')

That's the difference between humanity and animals.

Dogs love me cause I'm crazy sniffable

Do you see what happens, Larry, when you find a stranger in the Alps?

FYI, I can be used for snu-snu.

theunentitled, Apr 26, 2003 Report

ShadowSora
Guest

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #322

Okey, then tell me, what is evil? Like I said, there is no evil in nature. It isn't real, it's an invention of human minds.

And no, animals don't think of us as "evil", they think of us as danger. Which further proves my point: evil is just an example of humans overthinking things.

ShadowSora, Apr 26, 2003 Report

theunentitled
Level 9999

Joined: Feb 21, 2002
Messages: 20,299

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #323

Overthinking just may be what makes us evil. What have our smarts done to better nature? Anything?

We are able to drill deep into the earth, steal the planet's oil, chop trees down and make other things extinct. That's another thing I think makes "God" unlikely.

Edit: Drizzy's just jealous this thread may one day become as big as the community thread

edit: Actually, I removed my earlier post and statement after a discussion with Megavolt

Dogs love me cause I'm crazy sniffable

Do you see what happens, Larry, when you find a stranger in the Alps?

FYI, I can be used for snu-snu.

theunentitled, Apr 26, 2003 Report

ShadowSora
Guest

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #324

Yeah, but evil is still just a fictional thing. Those things you mentioned can be described as foolish, or ignorant, ect, but evil is far too much of a theological word to use in real life situations.

ShadowSora, Apr 26, 2003 Report

MegaVolt67
16-bit Mod

Joined: Jun 7, 2001
Messages: 17,402

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #325

Drizzt will allow the thread to remain longer! Yahoo! I don't know how much longer, but he's decided to allow it to remain for now. Let the religion and philosophy discussion continue!

I don't know if true "evil" by definition exists, but there's something that's damn close to it. The question is whether it's actually "evil", "confusion", or "ignorance".... Whatever the case, it sucks. I think the world would get along better without us. But since we're already here for some reason or another, all we can do is try to live our lives the best way that we can. Now to figure out what the "best" way is...

Youtube channel: http://www.youtube.com/user/megavolt67
VGM collection: http://vgmdb.net/db/collection.php?do=view&userid=136

MegaVolt67, Apr 26, 2003 Report

Talraen
Noob

Joined: Aug 24, 2000
Messages: 486

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #326

OK, this whole "nature is good and humans are evil!" nonsense has gotten *way* out of hand (not just here, I mean in general). I mean, think about it in a different way. Let's say you're an animal. Would you, as an animal, ever (for example) torture another animal? Well, no - and why not? Because you're not "evil"? No! Because you have nothing to gain by doing so. Survival is all that matters, and wasting time torturing other animals doesn't help you survive at all.

Now, let's say you're a human. Survival is not generally an issue - I mean, most people are going to survive on a day to day basis. So humans have one things animals do not: the luxury of not having to worry about surviving all the time. So we sit around living life in a *completely* different world than any animals (from a philosophical standpoint) and as a result we've developed this concept of "evil." My point is, humans are not evil because we are just inherently evil, but rather because we're the only species that can *afford* to be.

And as for the "humans destroy the planet, and no other species does" - I say that's 100% BS. I can't say I have any evidence of animals that destroy their environment on hand, but then again, there shouldn't be any. Why? Because animals that destroy their own environment will quickly become extinct. You don't have to believe in evolution to believe that. Again it comes down to survival instinct - animals have a priority not to destroy the environment (whether this is a natural instinct or evolved trait, I don't know, but it's immaterial). Humans don't - because we, again, don't have that same survival instinct. History has shown us that if we run out of a resource, we can find more elsewhere, or make do with something else.

This attitude humans have developed of self-loathing is despicable. Certainly no "good, wholesome animal" hates its own species.

James Dowd
Member UDIC
"Deny everything, regret nothing!"
If you don't have something intelligent to say,
don't say anything at all!

Talraen, Apr 26, 2003 Report

MegaVolt67
16-bit Mod

Joined: Jun 7, 2001
Messages: 17,402

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #327

If it's simply a matter of priority, then we better start paying attention to what we're doing. If we use up every non-renewable resource on this planet, we're screwed. We may find ways to adapt(I think Solar power may end up being the final option), but since we just keep using and using, I wouldn't want to inherit the distant future. What a dark and dreary place this planet will be with the dependence on technology and maybe a few natural things left. Anyways, the Sun will eventually go Supernova. I'd like to see how humans can survive that. I'll be much impressed if they do.

I don't loathe myself too much... I know that I have a desire to be good. I also have some less than "good" desires. But knowing that they're considered inappropriate, I put them away deep inside myself. And whenever someone does that, there will always be a little residual of resentment remaining. We have natural impulses that we suppress over moral and societal demands. That's probably what causes us to get depressed, confused, and probably to do bad things. But we NEED to be controlled, because many would abuse true freedom and we'd be wallowing in chaos and anarchy.

Youtube channel: http://www.youtube.com/user/megavolt67
VGM collection: http://vgmdb.net/db/collection.php?do=view&userid=136

MegaVolt67, Apr 26, 2003 Report

theunentitled
Level 9999

Joined: Feb 21, 2002

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #328

" My point is, humans are not evil because we are just inherently evil, but rather because we're the only species that can *afford* to be. "

Idle hands are the devil's favorite tool?

We spend so much time on luxury, not caring what we're taking. Apathy (it isn't ignorance) is nearly as bad as the actual acts. Our priorities need a shuffling.

I'm not trying to sound holier-than-thou either. It's something we're all guilty of.

Messages: 20,299

Dogs love me cause I'm crazy sniffable

Do you see what happens, Larry, when you find a stranger in the Alps?

FYI, I can be used for snu-snu.

theunentitled, Apr 26, 2003 Report

MegaVolt67
16-bit Mod

Joined: Jun 7, 2001
Messages: 17,402

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #329

Can evil can only be true if it's intentional? Or can there be unintentional evil? Is true "evil" that which is done for no other purpose?

Youtube channel: http://www.youtube.com/user/megavolt67
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MegaVolt67, Apr 26, 2003 Report

theunentitled
Level 9999

Joined: Feb 21, 2002
Messages: 20,299

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #330

Well by unintentional...that implies something wholly different from inaction. Unintentional harm caused to something isn't as bad because you "didn't intend" bad consequences. When we drill for oil, we know what we're doing. Like...hm, how to say this in another way...

For example, a guy accidentally fires a gun that hits someone a few blocks away. That's unintentional, and there is no evil there. Foolishness, sure.

But the people that sit and watch a murder in the street and don't try to help the victim, that's evil to me.

This is turning rather political, no? Hm.

Dogs love me cause I'm crazy sniffable

Do you see what happens, Larry, when you find a stranger in the Alps?

FYI, I can be used for snu-snu.

theunentitled, Apr 26, 2003 Report

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #331

How about unintentional injury from someone you care about? You carry the pain from the injury, as best as anyone could. But the person doesn't

MegaVolt67
16-bit Mod

Joined: Jun 7, 2001
Messages: 17,402

recognize their error. And even when you try to suggest it, they just don't see it. Telling them would only evoke a completely negative response, and they'd never understand. So you shoulder the burden of those unwanted feelings of resentment. Not only that, but you feel bad that the person can't recognize, and you also feel bad for bearing those feelings towards one who you care about. So you get, anger+resentment+guilt. Sometimes, it'd be easier to know it's intentional so that the anger can feel justified.

Anyways, whether intentional or not, the person on the receiving end will most likely perceive it as bad. So then slavery might not be evil then, since the masters didn't intend it as the enslaved perceived it. At least some of them claimed to believe that.

Youtube channel: http://www.youtube.com/user/megavolt67
VGM collection: http://vgmdb.net/db/collection.php?do=view&userid=136

MegaVolt67, Apr 26, 2003 Report

legacyAccount
Old Account

Joined: Nov 10, 2011
Messages: 4,475,527

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #332

In regards to how humans live and how we destroy our world, I read an interesting book on that not too long ago called Ishmael. Unedited, I think you might like it. It brings up some good points. One point it made was that we have developed this attitude that there is something missing from us. Something that makes us incomplete and makes us do the irresponsible things we do. I guess you could call it evil. Well, anyways, what it says is that we have put ourself in a society that we really aren't ready for. We think we are above all the other creatures in nature and we need to make this 'progress' to evolve. The society which we live in sets goals which we are unable to really live by. There was nothing wrong with they way we were living thousands of years ago as hunter gatherers.

legacyAccount, Apr 26, 2003 Report

theunentitled
Level 9999

Joined: Feb 21, 2002
Messages: 20,299

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #333

If someone doesn't understand they hurt you...well. I've been in that position, unfortunately. I don't know what I'd call it. But the course of action would be to discuss it with them I think. They just might learn a lesson, and getting your feelings out in the air is only good for the long term relationship.

Dogs love me cause I'm crazy sniffable

Do you see what happens, Larry, when you find a stranger in the Alps?

FYI, I can be used for snu-snu.

theunentitled, Apr 26, 2003 Report

jal311
Noob

Joined: Nov 12, 2002
Messages: 314

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #334

I don't think humans are inherently evil.

Look at what our first sin is supposed to be:

Trying to be like God. This isn't evil in its own right, trying to be the best you can be isn't a bad sin. If a track star trains really hard to be as good as he can be that's not evil. Disobeying God is what got them in trouble but their intentions were pure, trying to gain knowledge, a force that drives all humans. Watson and Crick are not evil because the discovered DNA 50 years ago (today actually). The author of the Adam and Eve story went through a lot of trouble to show humans aren't inherently evil but are capable of doing evil.

jal311, Apr 26, 2003 Report

MegaVolt67
16-bit Mod

Joined: Jun 7, 2001
Messages: 17,402

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #335

Ishmael...it sounds interesting. I'll check out Barnes and Noble for it.

Some do believe that humans should just return to a simpler form of living. (agrarian based, maybe) Of course, it's too late for me, now that I'm aware of all this crap. Plus I need my technology. It keeps me happy. *Tries to imagine life without videogames* OH MY GOD...!

Youtube channel: http://www.youtube.com/user/megavolt67
VGM collection: http://vgmdb.net/db/collection.php?do=view&userid=136

MegaVolt67, Apr 26, 2003 Report

Bucko57
Noob

Joined: Sep 2, 2000
Messages: 2,310

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #336

Looks up evil in the dictionary

...

Understands the definition

...

Is happy

http://www.badastronomy.com/

Bucko57, Apr 26, 2003 Report

legacyAccount
Old Account

Joined: Nov 10, 2011
Messages: 4,475,527

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #337

Oh it's far too late to go back. The basic problem now is that we are way over populated and we just keep breeding.

legacyAccount, Apr 26, 2003 Report

MegaVolt67
16-bit Mod

Joined: Jun 7, 2001
Messages: 17,402

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #338

Yeah, this massive breeding and extension of the average lifespan will be the end for us. Unfortunately, the solution can't be anything pleasant. Only disease or war on a global scale could reduce the population growth.

Damn, the first definition of evil is "morally wrong"? Hah! What a bunch of baloney. Let's see, which one is more fitting... Hmm...actually, I think malice is more fitting. To be cruel for no reason but for the sake of being cruel. That's how I envision evil, but I don't know if it's even possible.

Youtube channel: http://www.youtube.com/user/megavolt67
VGM collection: http://vgmdb.net/db/collection.php?do=view&userid=136

MegaVolt67, Apr 26, 2003 Report

legacyAccount
Old Account

Joined: Nov 10, 2011
Messages: 4,475,527

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #339

Well, i'm glad you agree. According to Lacan i'm not as smart as I think I am :-/ Whatever though. Guess i'm not allowed to say what I think. I don't slam other people for their opinions and i'd appriciate the same from other people.

legacyAccount, Apr 26, 2003 Report

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #340

I would never slam on your opinions brianspangler.

timmyjoe012345
Noob

Joined: Aug 22, 2002
Messages: 15,764

If you think about it there are really no officail set of morals in the universe. Just what us as imperfect humans percieve evil as. When the first lifeforms became living they didn't come with right and wrong engraved within them. But as we gained the ability to think we began thinking about pain and happiness. Pain doesn't make someone feel good, therefor if you inflict pain on someone it became evil. On the other hand hapiness makes us feel good, so if we inflict hapiness on someone it became a act of good. People needed a way of teaching this, thus bringing about the birth of religion. Over the years religion perhaps has been taken to a level it was not supposed to be. The level of non-fiction. Most people won't agree, but it is a possibility.

oh my hero, so far away now. Will I ever see your smile?
Love goes away, like night into day. It's just a fading dream.
I'm the darkness, your the stars. Our love is brighter than the sun.
For eternity, for me there can be, only you my chosen one.-FF6

timmyjoe012345, Apr 26, 2003 Report

-Lenin-
Noob

Joined: Apr 24, 2002
Messages: 18,711

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #341

Correct, everything is as we percieve it.

We've made our own rules, according to how we see and understand them. As well as according to how we FEEL about them.

Re:Any legit use for 3127? (Score:5, Funny)
by nmoog (701216) on Monday February 09, @09:45PM (#8234397)
Yeah, port 3127 is used for DoS attacks on Microsoft. Its best to leave it open.
[Reply to This | Parent]

-Lenin-, Apr 26, 2003 Report

Talraen
Noob

Joined: Aug 24, 2000
Messages: 486

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #342

But what if there *is* an inherent difference between good and evil in the universe? What if, in fact, any action can be objectively classified as good or evil?

I don't have any evidence to support this theory, but I believe one of the purposes of intelligent life is to discover what is actually evil (and then not be that). So many dismiss the idea of absolute morals out of hand, but would it be as hard to believe as the idea that intelligence evolved in the first place?

Anyway, from an evolutionary standpoint you can look at many wars and other conflicts as being about humans arguing over whose morals are right. Could this be a form of intellectual evolution on a large scale? Survival of the most moral?

James Dowd
Member UDIC
"Deny everything, regret nothing!"
If you don't have something intelligent to say,
don't say anything at all!

Talraen, Apr 26, 2003 Report

AngryRabbit
Noob

Joined: Aug 24, 2001
Messages: 358

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #343

I don't think anything can inherently be considered good or evil, but that doesn't mean evil doesn't really exist. Knowing that our history is filled with things such as the Holocaust and the Great Purge proves that evil does exist somewhere. The problem is locating it. Were the soldiers and military police officers who fought for Germany in WWII evil? In themselves, no- many of them were just doing their job, probably believed what they were doing was being done in the name of defending their nation, and didn't realize how much damage was being caused by the regime they were defending. But would Hitler himself and the Nazi regime be considered evil? I think most people would agree that would be a yes, even if most of the people who made up the regime weren't actually evil.

But sometimes it can go deeper then that. During the period of slavery in the United States, very few of the slaveowners themselves could probably be really considered evil, although they were ignorant of a lot of things. At the same time, though, many of them were also men who really just wanted to provide food for themselves and their families, and did so through slavery because they probably didn't realize just how bad it was. Still, like the Nazi regime, the institution of slavery itself could be considered evil, even if most of the people responsible for it weren't. Unlike the Nazi regime, however, there was no one 'leading' slavery in the U.S.- it was simply a system that formed through over two centuries of ignorance, intolerance, and apathy. In other words, a bunch of smaller sins, combined and evolved over the years, formed an intricate system of laws that were responsible for a much larger crime.

So while good and evil aren't really as 'black and white' a cocnept as many people seem to think they are, it's equally foolish to assume good and evil don't exist at all within our world.

With great power must come great responsibility...

AngryRabbit, Apr 26, 2003 Report

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #344

I think we pretty much all understand that the unnatural human evolution was set in motion by Lavos. End of discussion.

SephirothXVIII
Noob

Joined: Sep 7, 2002
Messages: 3,891

~R|D~
Challenge me on the Nurburgring!
Gamertag: Rusty Gunns
FFXI name: Mystoval
Server: Ragnarok

SephirothXVIII, Apr 26, 2003 Report

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #345

theunentitled
Level 9999

Joined: Feb 21, 2002
Messages: 20,299

"Were the soldiers and military police officers who fought for Germany in WWII evil? "

YES. Yes yes yes.

I mean,....crud! Nah. Not the solidiers. Mostly. I thought you were talking about the SS though. Bah.

Edit2: This is becoming too much about semantics now.

Dogs love me cause I'm crazy sniffable

Do you see what happens, Larry, when you find a stranger in the Alps?

FYI, I can be used for snu-snu.

theunentitled, Apr 26, 2003 Report

mikel
Prime Member

Joined: Jul 5, 2001
Messages: 2,708

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #346

Hmmm... I seem to have missed the discussion about "evil", so, being one of the few representatives for Christianity here, I'll do my best to sum up my view on "evil". I only skimmed the last couple pages, so sorry if I'm repeating or making moot points.

Volt: "*I don't know if people can truly be labeled as good or bad. We just...live.*"

Biblically, every human is evil. Everyone of us is evil by nature, and is hence seperated from God. That's where Jesus comes in. He provides the bridge to God. He took the punishment of evil upon himself, and all we have to do is give him our evil too to be free of it. Life is not a test to see if we are evil, but as to whether or not we rely on Jesus to take away our evil. Of course, I'm coming from the protestant view point.

Volt: "*They say that Satan is the source of all evil. I say that man doesn't need the help.*"

(Once again, I'm coming from the Christain protestant standpoint, which, by now, should be needless to say) Originally, we were created in the image of God. Not Gods ourselves, but close to it. But Satan corrupted Adam and Eve with his half-truths, getting them to eat the of the tree of knowledge. Ever since then, man has been corrupt like Satan, blending truths into half-truths, with what we dub as "wisdom". We are now quite capable of our own evil, but it *was* Satan that corrupted us in the first place.

"*If you think about it there are really no officail set of morals in the universe. Just what us as imperfect humans percieve evil as.*"

First of all, you're somewhat contradicting yourself. You're saying that there is objectively no right and wrong, while saying that your statement is objectively right. The theory of relativism is, logically, self-contained within its own self. The very premises that make it possible also limit it into an infinitely small range. If I say there is objectively no truth, I'm using an absolute statement to say that there are no such things as absolute statements... if you follow me. Whether or not this makes relativism impossible, or whether this is a mere technicality, I'm not sure. I'd lean towards the opinion that it makes relativism impossible.

If there are no definites in the universe, then why do you bother trying to pick something up? If there were no definites, your hand could slip straight through the object, you could spontaneously combust for no reason, or how do you know that the touching of the object wouldn't make you explode? etc... Yet, you know that when you try to lift an object, your hand will cup around it, and you can lift it. This is a definite. The mere fact that you can even begin to make predictions about the world around you makes it impossible for the world to be objectively indefinite and relative. Relative to a point, maybe, but not objectively and totally relative. I find it most logical that these definites come from some sort of God-figure guiding the iniverse. I believe that without God, and without definites, the universe would simply fall apart, and the Bible says similarly.

Remember me as: The Nobody

mikel, Apr 26, 2003 Report

legacyAccount

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #347

Well, i'm gonna side with Volt on this one. People aren't inhearently good or evil. I belive most of us are much closer to good than we are to evil. How often do you have an 'evil' though run through your head compared to all the times you have good ones?

I think the devil is more of a thing we invinted to blame on these ideas that we don't want.

Old Account

Joined: Nov 10, 2011
Messages: 4,475,527

On a side note about adam and eve, if God knows everything, he knows satan was going to temp eve the whole time and he knew that she would take it, thus it was a part of his plan, so why would he say we are bad or evil? He basically made her do it. He doomed everyone based on the actions of 2 people and himself. That's why I don't like chistianity (no offense). Too many games.

legacyAccount, Apr 26, 2003 Report

mikel
Prime Member

Joined: Jul 5, 2001
Messages: 2,708

Date Posted: Apr 26, 2003 #348

First of all, he didn't *doom* us all. I'm going to heaven, and so can anyone else that wants to.

I'm also a bit disturbed by God's "games" as you put it. But, you must remember that there is a difference between *knowing* the future and making it happen. God didn't *force* Eve to eat the fruit. He *did* provide the circumstances, knowing the outcome of them, but you must also remember that we, limited to our logic, are alos ignorant of God's true intentions in creation. I'm probably just taking the easy way out, but I blame God's "games" on our ignorance of God's purpose (and hence, our seperation from God, and hence our evil).

Remember me as: The Nobody

mikel, Apr 26, 2003 Report

SephirothXVIII
Noob

Joined: Sep 7, 2002
Messages: 3,891

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #349

If there are no definites in the universe, then why do you bother trying to pick something up? If there were no definites, your hand could slip straight through the object, you could spontaneously combust for no reason, or how do you know that the touching of the object wouldn't make you explode? etc...

That doesn't really mean anything. Our certainty that the cup we see is actually there is a function of psychological routine and conditioning. That is, every time we've reached for a cup on the table, it has been "there," and we've been able to pick it up. Thus, we *expect* that a cup will be there when we see it, even though it may not be.

If you look at quantifiable properties of.....things, for lack of a better way to put it, you will see that nothing is definite either. There is no highest number, no hottest temperature, the universe (recently, I believe) was decided to be eternally expanding, etc. A while ago we thought we'd found the tiniest particles (electrons), and then they found that protons and neutrons were made up of even tinier particles called quarks. How do we find the smallest particle of them all? I don't think it's fair to claim that

anything is definite. It reminds me of the phrase "All generalizations are false, including this one."

~R|D~
Challenge me on the Nurburgring!
Gamertag: Rusty Gunns
FFXI name: Mystoval
Server: Ragnarok

SephirothXVIII, Apr 27, 2003 Report

legacyAccount
Old Account

Joined: Nov 10, 2011
Messages: 4,475,527

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #350

well, i didn't mean doom us to hell but he did that too (the 'sinners' i mean). I meant he doomed us to hurt ourselves and be evil etc...i'm sure you get the drift. If he knew from the start, that he put the temptation there and then he allowed satan to tempt them that they would take it, then to me it is his fault as much as eves and adams. If I put a 10lb rock on a soaking wet piece of paper knowing the outcome (that the paper will break) how can I blame the rock? That may be a bad example but once again, i'm sure you understand my point.

How god can blame all of humanity for something that we didn't even do, is beyond me. I also won't agree that we just aren't smart enough to accept gods logic. If god wanted us to live by his word, then he would have made it clearly understandable by us lowely humans. If not, it's just another game to me.

legacyAccount, Apr 27, 2003 Report

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