

MORAL REFORMISM/ BETWEEN CONFORMISM AND ANARCHY

The moral conformist accepts, or feigns to accept, the moral code of his society, whereas the moral anarchist rejects it just as fully, or makes believe he does. Between these two extremes we find the moral reformer, e.g. Spinoza, who accepts some norms and rejects others. The moral reformer starts by criticizing the existing moral code and goes on to sketch a society enforcing a somewhat different moral code. The progressive moral reformer will strive for the continuation of the progressive moral movement started in the 18th century: human rights, more humane laws, the joining of justice and charity, and the doing of one's duty out of love, hence gladly, rather than as a disagreeable task.

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