

Apologetics Based on the Value of Human Life

Many secular thinkers argue that human life has no objective value or moral significance, because it is the product of accidental processes without plan or purpose. However, they are often inconsistent, because in various ways they show that they do indeed value human life. Christian apologetics can take advantage of this to show that our understanding of the value of human life points to the existence of God.

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- I. Secular ideologies have undermined the Judeo-Christian sanctity-of-life ethic
 - A. Judeo-Christian view is that humans are created in the image of God
- II. Apologetics argument
 - A. Premise 1. If God does not exist, then human life has no intrinsic value, transcendent meaning, purpose, or objective moral significance.
 - B. Premise 2. Human life has intrinsic value, transcendent meaning, purpose, and objective moral significance
 - C. Conclusion: Therefore, God exists
- III. Premise 1 - Many secularists acknowledge that human life has no special value
 - A. Nietzsche, Sartre, and Existentialists
 - B. Scientific Materialists: Dawkins, Lawrence Krauss
 - C. PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals)
- IV. But secularists seem to know that human life is valuable (which contradicts their worldview)
 - A. Bertrand Russell

1. Argued humans had no value, but campaigned for nuclear disarmament
2. Argued morality was only mere emotion, but was staunch moralist

B. Jerry Coyne

C. Peter Singer

V. Noxious consequences of devaluing human life in history and contemporary society

A. Communist regimes

B. Nazism

C. Pekka-Eric Auvinen and Eric Harris

D. Abortion, Infanticide, Euthanasia

Suggested Readings:

Richard Weikart, *The Death of Humanity: And the Case for Life*. Washington, DC: Regnery Faith, 2016.

Nancy Pearcey, *Finding Truth: 5 Principles for Unmasking Atheism, Secularism, and Other God Substitutes*. Colorado Springs: David C. Cook, 2015.

C. Everett Coop and Francis Schaeffer, *Whatever Happened to the Human Race?* Rev. ed. Crossway, 1983.

C. S. Lewis, *The Abolition of Man*. HarperOne, 2015.