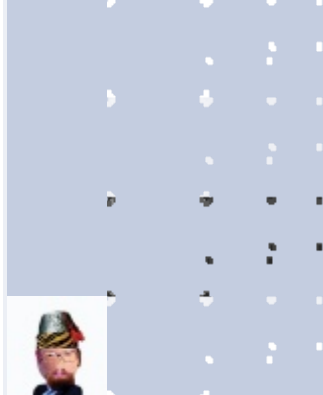


Hellbound Allee Blood is not a rational payment for freedom or salvation.

July 21 at 2:44pm via iGoogle Gadget · [Comment](#) · [Like](#)

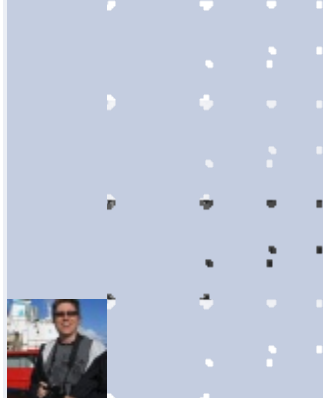
Aaron Kinney and 3 others like this.



Johnny Lemuria

Perhaps, but "rational" has never been synonymous with "necessary".

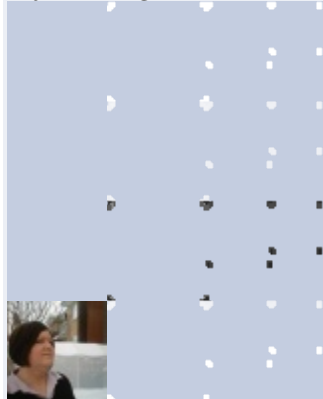
July 21 at 2:48pm



Sean Prophet

So called "rights" only exist because of the use or threat of use of superior force.

July 21 at 4:14pm · [Delete](#)



Hellbound Allee

Johnny Lemuria: what is blood? Look at it. Smell it. What is it made of? How is it used? Blood sacrifice is based on belief. So are "blood-borne rights." What, chemically, is in blood, that gives a concept life?

Blood can be transfused, but it does not give privilege or status with the gods or with imaginary concepts like "country."

Sometimes blood is just blood.

No, erase "sometimes." Blood is always blood.

July 21 at 4:40pm



Hellbound Allee

Anyone who has been bullied, harrassed, raped, and beaten to the ground knows that Might Does NOT make right.

Even those of us who have been beaten down know that we don't have to believe in monsters or silly ideals about blood and bruises, or coercion. We know that right exists, and that there's no magical fluid that makes it more right. We may not see it for ourselves; it's possible no person will know it, but you don't get closer to it by beating down.

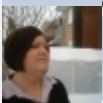
July 21 at 4:46pm



Sean Prophet

No, we can decide what is right democratically. We just have to be willing to back it up with force. It's a tough thing to understand, but true.

July 21 at 4:46pm · Delete



Hellbound Allee

I can't believe you just said that, Sean. That's ridiculous. And magical, too.

"Widespread agreement changes reality." You have scientific proof of that?

I guess there is a God, and its existence can be made true by killing people.

July 21 at 4:49pm



Hellbound Allee

Unbelievable.

July 21 at 4:50pm



Francois Tremblay

Sean, apparently you believe that people's will has primacy over reality. Since when do you believe in magic?

July 21 at 4:55pm



Sean Prophet

That's not what I said. Before civilization, might used to make right. Since the Magna Carta, we began to agree on a broader definition of what was right, and used armies to enforce it. As time went on, the agreement of what was right evolved, and so the concept of "rights" evolved. All the while, it is backed up by threat of force. Slaves were freed because of superior force in the American North. It's bald-faced obvious. Otherwise, the strongest and best-armed people in your neighborhood would come, rape you, and steal your stuff. Clear enough?

July 21 at 4:57pm · Delete



Hellbound Allee

I was thinking again about it, and I remembered what I was originally talking about. I was trying to infer that people's christian belief about blood remains with them long after they've left the church, in the form of beliefs about Country and Patriotism, even Democracy. I was really talking about Blood, as in Blood is just blood, not a symbol for something. That's realistic, isn't it?

July 21 at 4:58pm



Francois Tremblay

Once again, you're saying that people's will has primacy over reality, therefore you believe in magical thinking. What is hard for you to follow in this?

July 21 at 4:58pm



Sean Prophet

Francois, you're losing it.

July 21 at 4:58pm · Delete



Sean Prophet

Yes, Allee, that's realistic.

July 21 at 4:59pm · Delete



Francois Tremblay

I am not "losing it." Your position is that people's will somehow creates reality by agreement. Is that not your position? If not, how does it differ from what I just said?

July 21 at 4:59pm



Sean Prophet

Reality is not created by agreement, but enforceable rights are. You have no rights unless there is something to back it up. If you don't have a big enough gun to deal with those who would take your rights, then you need a government or a private army.

July 21 at 5:01pm · Delete



Francois Tremblay

Let me paste again what you said:

"we can decide what is right democratically. We just have to be willing to back it up with force."

You "decide" reality (i.e. what is right) by pooling the will (votes) of millions of people. Therefore, reality, in your view, is malleable and can be changed by groups of people.

July 21 at 5:01pm



Sean Prophet

Again, Francois, not *reality*, like gravity or physics, but politically enforceable freedoms.

July 21 at 5:02pm · Delete



Francois Tremblay

"Reality is not created by agreement, but enforceable rights are."

You're contradicting yourself. Either rights are part of reality or they are not. If they are, then they cannot be created or destroyed by agreement. If they are not, then they have no bearing on anything.

What you are trying to talk about in your typically thoughtless and brutish way is people's BELIEFS about rights, which they will enforce regardless of those beliefs being right or wrong.

July 21 at 5:03pm



Francois Tremblay

"Again, Francois, not *reality*, like gravity or physics, but politically enforceable freedoms."

So now your position is that freedom is not real. And you say I'M losing it?

July 21 at 5:04pm



Hellbound Allee

Might never made right, even in the barbaric past. Which is an idea about the past that I'm not sure of.

Isn't it true that people use force and violence to desperately try to force their system on others? Democracy does this every day. It doesn't fulfill "the people's" values at all. It allows a system to do violence on people, in order to, I suppose, support "what was democratically proven to be right." States allow people to vote over human rights every day. "The people" don't have to decide to kill or maim. That's democracy at work.

July 21 at 5:04pm



Sean Prophet

Apparently you believe in the discredited notion of the noble savage, then? When have people ever not tried to take away each other's freedoms? What meaning does a "right" have if it cannot be exercised?

July 21 at 5:05pm · Delete



Francois Tremblay

What do you care about people taking away each other's freedoms? You don't think freedom is real, by your own admission. You are making a fool of yourself.

July 21 at 5:06pm



Hellbound Allee

I believe in the noble savage? I believe people were once not violent? Wow. I didn't know that about myself.

I do know that democracy doesn't civilize the violence out of people; it just creates a class of people to do it for us, and it takes away our ability to defend ourselves. We don't want to get in the way of the "justice system."

July 21 at 5:08pm



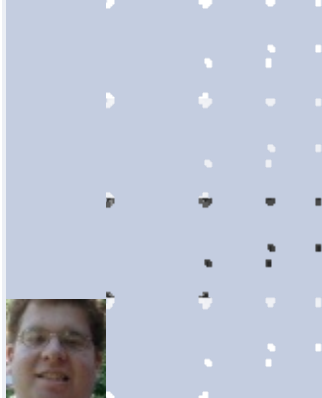
Sean Prophet

Come on Francois, you *haven't* changed a bit. Still putting words in people's mouths. Look: there may be an idealized concept of freedom, but like "perfect justice" or "perfect circles," it doesn't exist in the real world. Plato made up that whole BS about "forms" to come up with some other place like an afterlife where such perfection existed. So if you believe in those kinds of ideals, you must believe we're living in some kind of supernatural place. 'Cause in the real world, force is always involved. Mmkay?

Allee, I was talking to Franc about the noble savage. He thinks people actually cared at some point in history about idealized concepts of "freedom." The facts show otherwise. I never said democracy civilized the violence out of us, it just keeps it under wraps, a kind of detente to be broken whenever the violator thinks they can escape the superior force of the law.

You pick your poison. Be a thug or hire thugs to do it for you. We call that government. It's the lesser evil.

July 21 at 5:18pm · Delete



Francois Tremblay

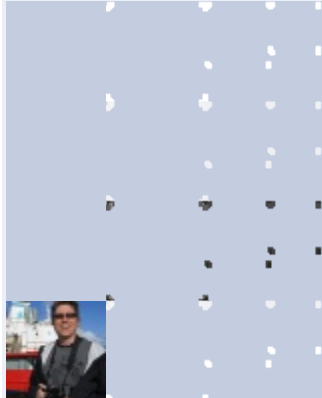
I didn't know quoting you exactly was "putting words in your mouth." And I don't take freedom as an ideal form. I'm talking about YOUR concept of freedom. You said very clearly that freedom was not real. Do you deny that now, when I quoted you saying exactly that?

I never said anything about people caring or not caring about the concept of freedom. Can you quote me saying that? Otherwise, stop the red herring.

Democracy doesn't breed order. It merely breeds a different kind of crime, harder to stop than theft and murder.

I'm an Anarchist, so obviously I DON'T believe government is the "lesser evil," you moron. The greatest good is a society built around equitable rules, and that's all that all Anarchists believe in. The greatest evil is hierarchy, in whatever form you propose it, including government.

July 21 at 5:24pm



Sean Prophet

I never said freedom wasn't real, I said it wasn't practiced without the support of superior force. Jesus chocolate Christ, you are a dishonest debater.

Denying hierarchy is as irrational as denying the reality of power in human nature. Unless you are talking about a society of Epsilons. Perhaps they would do well under anarchy.

July 21 at 5:30pm · Delete



Francois Tremblay

I quote you again:

"Again, Francois, not *reality*, like gravity or physics, but politically enforceable freedoms."

Were you lying about that or not?

"Denying hierarchy is as irrational as denying the reality of power in human nature."

Incorrect. In fact, only the Anarchists understand the reality of power in human nature and in society. Denying hierarchy is the only human, rational, decent position about power that there is.

But I don't expect you to ever understand that. You are still stuck on "might makes right" as your principle, the most primitive level of social principles. Maybe one day you'll grow up and start believing in fraud instead of murder (then you'll at least be a consistent capitalist).

July 21 at 5:36pm



Johnny Lemuria

Blood is blood, Alee, that is correct. And rationally, that is all it is. But rationality bears much less bearing on our day-to-day interactions than belief does, and that belief is often irrational, or at least arational (it is possible to believe in rational things for non-rational reasons.) Ergo, while needing the spilling of blood for freedom or salvation may be irrational, the belief of others may make it necessary. And thus real.

July 21 at 6:13pm



Sean Prophet

Francois, can you deny genetic hierarchy? Disparities in strength? Differing aptitudes for professions?

All political systems compensate for such inequalities to make people equal in dignity if nothing else. To do this, they use a variety of methods, including force. That is not exactly might makes right. It's checks and balances. We traded our spears, bows, and arrows for laws and punishments.

People spend about 98% of their time and energy trying to manipulate, negotiate, and get what they want from each other or society. Some fulfill their agreements and obligations while others scam the system in whatever way they can. You can either play the game or get played, whether by government or by others. Your place in the social hierarchy is determined by luck, skill and cunning. Or you can just deny such competition exists, and still end up on the losing end.

How's that all going for you?

July 21 at 7:26pm · Delete



Brad Reddekopp

What bullshit, Sean. It's not might makes right? That's precisely what it is.

July 21 at 8:33pm



Francois Tremblay

"Francois, can you deny genetic hierarchy? Disparities in strength? Differing aptitudes for professions?"

There is no such thing as "genetic hierarchy." I acknowledge inequality of abilities, yes. But as Proudhon proves, inequality of abilities combined with the inequality of work can only lead us to the conclusion of equality.

"All political systems compensate for such inequalities to make people equal in dignity if nothing else."

Please, do tell us how capital-democracy, or any other hierarchical system, makes people "equal in dignity."

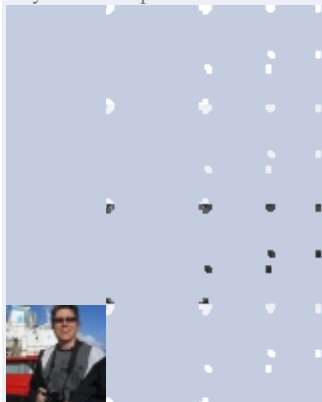
"It's checks and balances. We traded our spears, bows, and arrows for laws and punishments."

You ironically stated a very true principle (law is merely a more subtle form of violence), although of course you interpret it completely backwards.

"People spend about 98% of their time and energy trying to manipulate, negotiate, and get what they want from each other or society."

Why not stop all that bullshit and form a better kind of society?

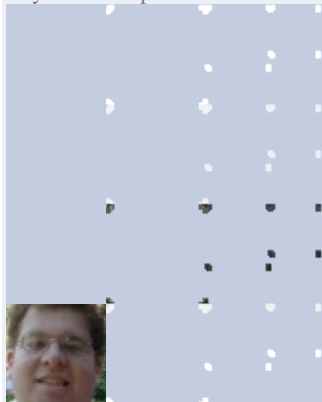
July 21 at 8:41pm



Sean Prophet

Brad, you guys have fun with your idealism. It would be "Lord of the Flies" in no time. I'd just love to watch a bunch of card carrying anarchists duke it out on a desert island. Last man standing wins. Hey, that's a great idea for a reality show!

July 21 at 8:42pm · Delete



Francois Tremblay

"You can either play the game or get played, whether by government or by others. Your place in the social hierarchy is determined by luck, skill and cunning. Or you can just deny such competition exists, and still end up on the losing end...."

Ah, the good ol' "use force because everyone else is doing it" argument. It's corrupt through and through. You are promoting force because you think it's "being realistic" and believe that using it is the means of success.

We don't deny that the competition exists. We deny its morality and its relevance to human life. We deny its validity. As Anarchists, we deny the validity of any hierarchical system which cannot justify its existence.

"How's that all going for you?"

I dunno, how's the stress, self-esteem issues and dysfunction of the materialistic lifestyle going for you?

July 21 at 8:44pm



Sean Prophet

"Why not stop all that bullshit and form a better kind of society?"

Same reason we don't have communism. People don't cooperate. People won't agree to relinquish their self-interest. They won't stop trying to undermine each other. Both communists and anarchists seem to miss this point.

July 21 at 8:46pm · Delete



Francois Tremblay

"Brad, you guys have fun with your idealism. It would be "Lord of the Flies" in no time. I'd just love to watch a bunch of card carrying anarchists duke it out on a desert island. Last man standing wins. Hey, that's a great idea for a reality show!"

You are a retard if you seriously believe that the only kind of relations you can have with other people are either hierarchical dominance or the plain use of violence.

Please tell me you are not that far gone in your insanity, Sean. I used to know you.

July 21 at 8:46pm



Sean Prophet

"You are a retard if you seriously believe that the only kind of relations you can have with other people are either hierarchical dominance or the plain use of violence."

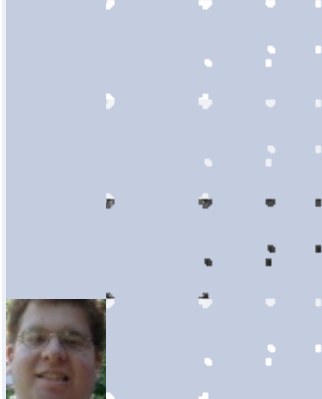
It's a lot more subtle than that. People smile at each other while they are secretly working to underbid their associates, eat their

friend's lunch or bang their other friend's wife.

Of course you or I would never do anything like that. Nor would anyone we trust, right? ;-)

Read a little about game theory sometime.

July 21 at 8:52pm · Delete



Francois Tremblay

"People don't cooperate."

Bullshit. People cooperate, all the time.

"People won't agree to relinquish their self-interest."

Good, because that's what YOU'RE asking them, not me. Your concept of materialistic success is a mirage.

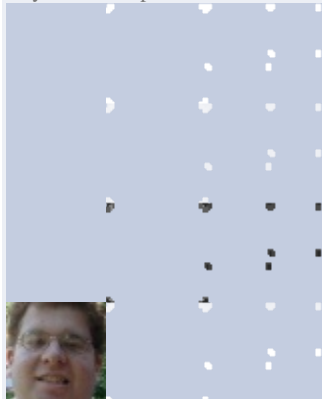
"They won't stop trying to undermine each other."

In a society built on exploitation, sure. It's the only way to win the game. But you're confusing your indoctrination with reality.

"Both communists and anarchists seem to miss this point."

No, you miss the point because you refuse to look at the evidence. You are indoctrinated in the belief that man is innately evil and can only fight his fellows. That belief is absolute nonsense.

July 21 at 8:57pm



Francois Tremblay

"It's a lot more subtle than that. People smile at each other while they are secretly working to underbid their associates, eat their friend's lunch or bang their other friend's wife."

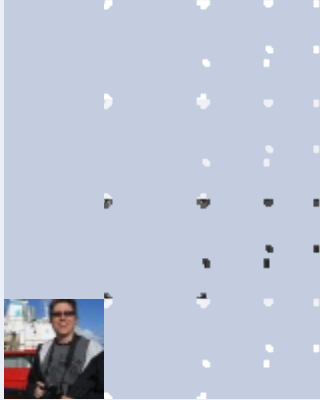
And this behaviour proves that the only kind of relations you can have with other people is either dominance or violence.

Yes, Sean. You obviously know everything.

"Read a little about game theory sometime."

I know more about it than you do, apparently. Read up on tit-for-tat, you asshole.

July 21 at 8:58pm



Sean Prophet

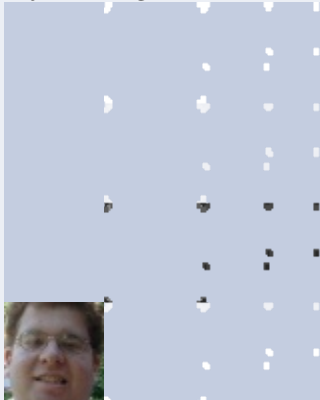
Francois, you and dB0 use very similar arguments. But he doesn't misrepresent his opponent like you do. Nor does he name call. Still, Communism and Anarchy rely on almost identical erroneous assumptions about human nature. Even when people have the best of intentions, they still don't end up cooperating. They do it until it is no longer in their interest. Then comes the knife in the back.

I've had the same arguments with believers. People love to insist on a basic goodness in human nature. Because the alternative scares the hell out of them. But what if it were true? I thought you always put truth over comfort?

Organisms adapt to better compete and kill off their competitors. We are organisms. Our entire history, without exception, shows no significant deviation from that strategy. Life feeds on life.

I'm all for win-win if we could figure it out. I just haven't seen much evidence of it.

July 21 at 9:27pm · Delete



Francois Tremblay

"Francois, you and dB0 use very similar arguments."

Why is that a surprise? We're both anarchists.

"Even when people have the best of intentions, they still don't end up cooperating. They do it until it is no longer in their interest. Then comes the knife in the back."

Yes, people are evil, people don't cooperate, etc. That is your indoctrination, not mine.

"I've had the same arguments with believers. People love to insist on a basic goodness in human nature."

They "insist" on it because it's true.

"Because the alternative scares the hell out of them. But what if it were true? I thought you always put truth over comfort?"

I always have and I still do. It's my position because it's true. I've looked at where that belief comes from, and it comes from indoctrination. I've looked at the facts and come out to the conclusion that human nature is innately good. I talked about it on my blog, of course. My reasoning is no big secret.

July 21 at 9:38pm



Francois Tremblay

"Organisms adapt to better compete and kill off their competitors. We are organisms. Our entire history, without exception, shows no significant deviation from that strategy. Life feeds on life...."

Yes... which is relevant to the issue of man being innately evil because...?

"I'm all for win-win if we could figure it out. I just haven't seen much evidence of it."

I don't believe you. I believe you're lying in order to rationalize your ideology, which cannot exist without such a premise. If I'm wrong about you lying, then I'm sorry, because that means you perceive the world in a very dark way, when there is both light and dark for us to look at.

July 21 at 9:41pm



Sean Prophet

"Why is that a surprise? We're both anarchists."

He's a communist which involves statism. You think the state is evil. He wants coerced cooperation, you think it should occur naturally.

I guess there's another constant among humans besides dominance, hierarchy, and violence, and that's the tendency toward insane amounts of cognitive dissonance.

You take the whole of human history, including genocides that are going on right now while we eat our dinner and type away on our keyboards. You look at a world where a billion people don't have access to clean water. You look at a situation where people can't agree to reign in their carbon emissions even when it's in their self-interest. And then you conclude that people are basically good and cooperative?

I don't get it. You're going to blame "the state" for all of that and let people off the hook. And I'm the one who's indoctrinated?

July 21 at 9:50pm · Delete



Francois Tremblay

"He's a communist which involves statism"

You didn't pay much attention when he talked to you, apparently. He's not a statist communist, he's a libcom.

"I guess there's another constant among humans besides dominance, hierarchy, and violence, and that's the tendency toward insane amounts of cognitive dissonance."

Actually, no: people can't take cognitive dissonance forever, and they sure don't seek it out. I have no idea where you got this "tendency."

"You take the whole of human history... You look at a world where a billion people don't have access to clean water... And then you conclude that people are basically good and cooperative?"

HUMAN NATURE, yes. People (like you) are indoctrinated into believing in the materialist games, that everyone else is innately evil, that we must obey authority, and we get wars, widespread poverty, and oppression. None of these things are natural. All of these things originate and are perpetuated by global capitalism, political hierarchies...

July 21 at 9:57pm



Francois Tremblay

... and it is your refusal to understand their causes which shows that you don't want to look at the evidence. You look at the current situation and therefore put the blame on human nature.

I am not putting people off the hook. I have stated on my blog that WE ARE ALL RESPONSIBLE. But we are the way out.

Yes, you are the one who is indoctrinated. You believe in things that aren't so, because you were told since you were little that they were so. That's where that belief comes from. It's no more valid than the existence of Santa Claus.

July 21 at 9:59pm



Sean Prophet

"Yes... which is relevant to the issue of man being innately evil because...?"

I didn't say it was evil. I just said that's how it was.

I don't think it's dark. I think human nature can be harnessed with the proper structure, which accepts it for what it is and creates a system of checks and balances.

I'm basically amoral. Shit happens. You only care when it's you or someone you love. But I think that idealistically we can create a value system that says "good" is the creation of life-promoting assets to be enjoyed by humans. "Evil" would be the destruction of such assets. Good would be a reduction of suffering, but not in an utilitarian sense--too hard to resolve conflicts. But I **feel** better knowing that less people are suffering.

We are a tribal species which has just taken the first baby steps away from savagery by forming nations, which have tended toward greater democracy over time. Ultimately, I'm for the abolishment of nations and the establishment of a global government.

July 21 at 10:01pm · Delete



Noor Mehta

Just because shit happens doesn't justify the actions of the doer. According to your worldview it seems that I could just walk into your house and shoot you, and hey, shit happens. What I did was perfectly fine and dandy.

July 21 at 10:03pm



Francois Tremblay

"I didn't say it was evil. I just said that's how it was."

... you've just said absolutely nothing.

"I don't think it's dark. I think human nature can be harnessed with the proper structure, which accepts it for what it is and creates a system of checks and balances."

... which apparently is accomplished by hierarchies of dominance, according to you. How does THAT work, Prophet?

"I'm basically amoral."

You can say that again.

"Shit happens. You only care when it's you or someone you love."

Do not presume to speak for anyone else but you.

"But I think that idealistically we can create a value system that says "good" is the creation of life-promoting assets to be enjoyed by humans."

Nature has already beat you to it by a few million years. You're late to the game, Prophet.

"Ultimately, I'm for the abolishment of nations and the establishment of a global government."

Where are your checks and balances again, Prophet? What's the balance to a global government?

July 21 at 10:05pm



Brad Reddekopp

"People don't cooperate."

Okay, we're dealing with a lunatic here. No point in further discussion.

July 21 at 10:15pm



Sean Prophet

Can you read? I said the structure involves checks and balances. Obviously, a global government without checks or balances wouldn't be much use, would it? Nor would it help to contain the more destructive impulses of its citizens.

Noor, what kind of a ridiculous comment is that? I didn't say it was "justified." Put the cops on vacation for a month in LA and see how it goes.

Everyone hides behind self-righteous "morality" when they look at other people, but they adopt a different standard for themselves. I'm just a little more honest about what motivates me. I'm not going to rip off your house because it's not in my interest, OK? There are easier ways to make a living. If I didn't have a job, and your house had the only food available and I was hungry, it would be a different story.

You can have ethics and intelligence without reference to morality. Come on, are we like 2 years old here, Noor?

July 21 at 10:15pm · Delete



Francois Tremblay

"Obviously, a global government without checks or balances wouldn't be much use, would it?"

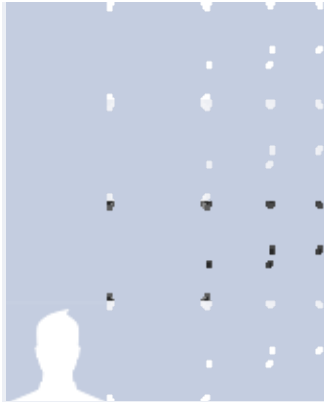
Yea, because dividing a government works so well when all of its members share the same class interests. Like in the US government. Yea, that's working out so well.

"I'm just a little more honest about what motivates me."

I don't believe you are amoral. I believe you are lying.

If you are not lying, I'm sorry. But I am not amoral, so stop projecting yourself on me.

July 21 at 10:17pm

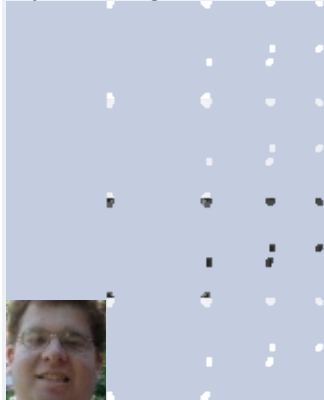


Noor Mehta

You were attempting to justify the existence of your State by advocating a might-makes-right view insofar as if the State does it, that alone is a reason for the State to exist.

Ethics without morality? How does that happen?

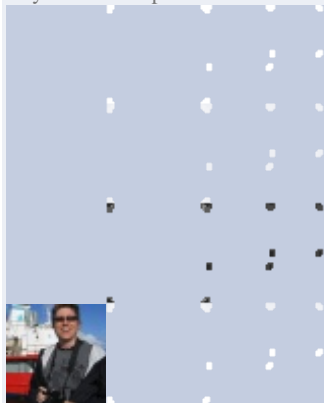
July 21 at 10:20pm



Francois Tremblay

Considering that Sean makes his living exploiting people, I don't know how qualified he is to talk about ethics OR morality.

July 21 at 10:26pm



Sean Prophet

"Like in the US government. Yea, that's working out so well."

Better than the alternatives, with a few exceptions in Europe, maybe Australia.

"I don't believe you are amoral. I believe you are lying."

Like the third time you've accused me of lying. I'm amoral, I think you are amoral. I just don't think you've been pushed to the limit yet. Put you in a cage match, and see what happens.

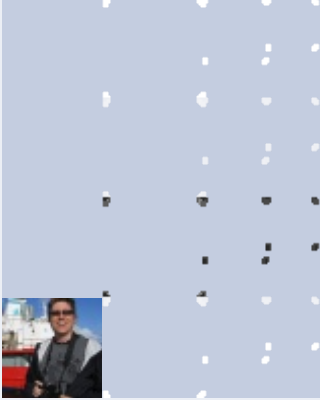
"Ethics without morality? How does that happen?"

Long-term planning and self-interest. Strategic cooperation. When I said people don't readily cooperate, it's because they don't often see their own long-term interests. If everyone played for their own long-term interests, they would cooperate. No "morality" or thought for others would be necessary.

The state uses corrective force when people lose sight of their own longer term interests. It's could be a temporary solution, if people were different. But I don't think they are.

I just don't expect the state to ever "wither away."

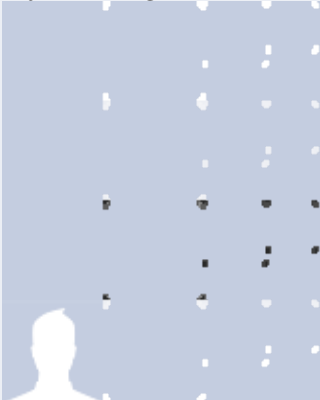
July 21 at 10:28pm · Delete



Sean Prophet

Make my living exploiting people? Ha. LOL. OK, good night boys, I have some serious exploiting to do.

July 21 at 10:30pm · Delete



Noor Mehta

>>"The state uses corrective force when people lose sight of their own longer term interests."

So why can't *I* do the same things the State does, to you for the same goal?

>>"I just don't expect the state to ever "wither away.""

That's what was said about slavery in the 19th century.

July 21 at 10:31pm



Francois Tremblay

"Better than the alternatives"

That's a pretty sad statement about the world.

"Like the third time you've accused me of lying. I'm amoral"

I am accusing you of lying because I think you are lying. I simply don't believe you. Or more exactly, I refuse to believe you. I suppose I am being an optimist. Either you are lying or you are too far gone to be helped.

"Put you in a cage match, and see what happens."

I wouldn't participate in cage matches.

July 21 at 10:31pm



Sean Prophet

"That's what was said about slavery in the 19th century."

And what ended slavery? Warfare. And government. I rest my case.

July 21 at 10:32pm · Delete



Francois Tremblay

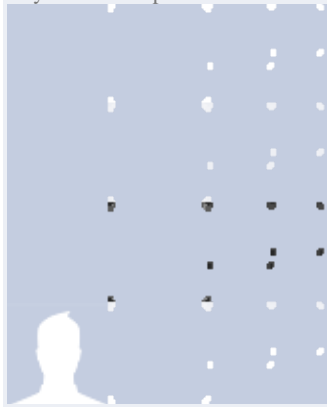
"Make my living exploiting people? Ha. LOL."

You think this is FUNNY?

Okay, I give up. You are probably not lying and you are probably that sick.

I'm sorry you got this way, Sean.

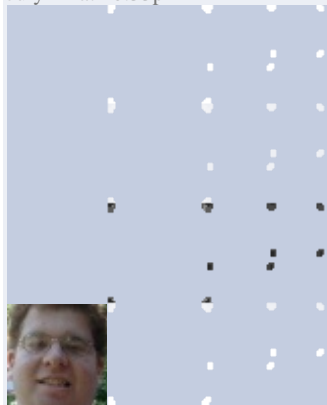
July 21 at 10:32pm



Noor Mehta

What do you think caused the slavery, and supported it for decades, in the first place?

July 21 at 10:33pm



Francois Tremblay

Sean, who supported slavery for centuries to begin with?

Point, set, match, Sean. You lose.

July 21 at 10:34pm

