

Lecture 7 Reading Questions

“The Utility of Liberty”

Reading:

“Of Individuality, As One Of The Elements Of Well-Being.”
Chapter 3 in “On Liberty” by John Stuart Mill.

(1) Why should people have absolute liberty of action so long as they don't harm others? What are the benefits to the individual of such liberty? What are the benefits to society? Why do the benefits outweigh the costs?

(2) Consider the previous questions in the light of:

- (i) laws prohibiting the use of hard drugs
- (ii) laws prohibiting sex in public
- (iii) laws prohibiting attempts at suicide or assisting attempts at suicide.

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