

Nietzsche

- Atheist
- Intellectual
- Society driven by human will
- Literally worked self sick
- Wrote 20 books
- Helped forge the field on Anthropology

Nietzsche

Had a negative reaction to science and reason.

Believed science and reason stifled the creativity of humans

Focused on the "natural" human will and the need to allow it to express itself

When you think of the "human will" what comes to your mind?

How would you define it?

How did Nietzsche define the human will?

- he seemed to think there are multiple human wills
- there is a devious will that represses an egotistical will in order to gain approval of others

The devious will (Apollonian) = rational spirit that dominated Christianity

The egotistical will (Dionysian) = a "deeper" force (primal)

What did Nietzsche see as the relationship between the human will and one's conscience?

The devious will prevails over Consciousness

Do you agree?

Perhaps Nietzsche's view of the human will is a foreshadowing of Freud's:

Id = egoistic will
ego = devious will
superego = conscience
(repression of the "ego will" by devious will)

Nietzsche believed that the human race should strive for the "next level" of humanity—where an individual is freed from social and psychological repression, allowing for creativity and enhanced energy

How might findings related to feral and isolated children be related to Nietzsche's understanding of the human will?

How do we express the human will?

- Art, creativity
- Emotions
- Human action
- Brilliant ideas
- Attempts to dominate others

How did the view of the human will differ between aristocrats and Christianity?

What did aristocrats consider "moral" when considering the relationship between humans?

Some human wills are meant to be dominated by others

What did Christians consider moral when considering the relationship between humans (they adopted the slave morality of the time)?

- Humility
- Obedience
- Self-abnegation
- Altruism
- Repression of self-expression

Nietzsche believed it was the slave morality that came to be revered by society as the lower classes overcame the aristocrats.

Why do you think Nietzsche attacked Christianity?

Nietzsche believed the "slave" or "altruistic" or "Christian" view was an unhealthy repression of our true selves inhibiting creativity and happiness.

This mentality (or morality) became a "tool" for some (e.g., priests, respected individuals) to dominate others

Nietzsche believed that being altruistic is only fooling oneself and through repression inhibiting valuable creativity and energy.

Do you agree?

Nietzsche believed:

"one makes the world one's own by willing it, repressing nothing, asking revenge for nothing, pressing continuously onward into a future that is fated to be like the past."

Nietzsche had a significant influence on a variety of social sciences: sociology, psychology, philosophy, political science

Thank you.