Philosophy of Development

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Paternalism
Interference with the FREEDOM or PERSONAL AUTONOMY of another person, with justifications referring to the promotion of the person’s good or the prevention of harm to the person. (from Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy, 1995); more generally, not allowing a person to make decisions on his or her own behalf.
Types of Paternalism

• Resource Paternalism
• Knowledge Paternalism
• Labor Paternalism
• Managerial Paternalism
• Spiritual Paternalism

Full Context

Suppose there are brothers or sisters who need clothes and don’t have enough to eat. What good is there in your saying to them, “God bless you! Keep warm and eat well!” – if you don’t give them the necessities of life?

(James 2:15-16)
Full Context

If the poor = Christ as Matthew 25 implies...

And then will I declare to them, ‘I never KNEW you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

Matthew 7:23

Poverty Inc.

Fighting poverty is big business. But who profits the most?

POVERTY, INC.
What’s the difference between charity work in Jesus time versus today?

Does the Biblical model for poverty alleviation still apply?

Full Context: Times have changed

Yes, “THE GAP BETWEEN RICH & POOR” is widening. And that’s good...!!!
Poverty = Broken Relationships
The psychology of poverty

2 Dimensional:

How we see the poor

How the poor see themselves

The psychology of poverty
The psychology of poverty

Tony Robbins &
His son.

The way you see people is the way you treat them and the way you treat them is the way they become.

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe
The psychology of poverty

Voices of the Poor...
• Shame
• Fear
• Hopelessness
• Feeling unable to speak or to stand up for self
• Felt Worthless

The psychology of poverty

Tony Robbins father...
Speaking of ashamed dads...
Story from...
The psychology of poverty

The poor want what we all want...
- *Respect*
- *Feel important*
- *Hope for the future*
- *Power & Control*
- *To feel worthy*

got respect?

Philosophical Side-Note:

Job > Charity

Because Job = Respect

Case in point: China

Why I like new trend: NGO + Business
But... Poverty alleviation is REALLY hard.

"Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime."
- Chinese Proverb
Philosophical Side-Note:

The 3rd World is resource poor, but (usually)... Socially RICH!

spiritual poverty
Spiritual poverty

Prosperity
Gospel

Testimony

- Reality Check
- http://www.worldometers.info/

- Why?
Testimony

Why so much pain & suffering in the world?

Testimony

How do you expect me to believe in God, asked Woody Allen, 'when only last week I got my tongue caught in the roller of my electric typewriter?'
How much Pain & suffering?

Step 1: Establish a unit of measurement

Definition:
1 hour root canal with no anesthesia = 1,000 pain & suffering points (ps)

In Truth, Pain & Suffering is difficult to Quantify

Example: Why are suicide rates so much higher in “developed” countries compared to “under-developed countries”?

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How much Pain & suffering?

Average life expectancy world-wide is 71.

Assumptions:

- Pain & Suffering is normally distributed
- 1 week ≈ 2,000 ps points
- Average = \( \mu \)
- Over a lifetime (71)

Average = 7.4 Million ps
= 7.4 Mps

\[ \mu = 7,384,000 \text{ pain & suffering (ps) points} \]
How much Pain & suffering?

But not all of life is pain & suffering!

Assumptions:

• Joy & Pleasure is normally distributed
• 1 week ≈ 1,000 jp points
• Average = \( \mu \)
  • Over a lifetime (71)

Average = 3.7 Million jp
= 3.7 Mjp

\( \mu = 3,692,000 \) joy & pleasure (jp) points

How much Pain & suffering?

Pessimistic Scenario:

With these Assumptions:

• Average person experiences about:

\[
Average = \frac{7.4 \ Mps}{3.7 \ Mjp} \approx 2 \ \frac{ps}{jp}
\]
How much Pain & suffering?

But!

With these Assumptions:

• The Biblical Model:

\[
Average = \frac{7.4 \, Mps}{(3.7 \, Mjp) + \infty}
\]
How much Pain & suffering?

Wait!

With these Assumptions:
- $t = \text{weeks}$
- The Biblical Model:
  - Pain and suffering stops.
  - Joy & pleasure points per week remain constant (for simplicity).

$$Avg = \lim_{t \to \infty} \frac{7.4 \text{ Mps}}{(3.7 \text{ Mjp}) + (1000 \text{ jp}) \cdot t} = ?$$
How much Pain & suffering?

Wait!

With these Assumptions:

- The Biblical Model:

\[ \text{Avg} = \lim_{t \to \infty} \frac{(\text{Any Finite Sum}) \text{ Mps}}{(3.7 \text{ Mjp}) + (1000 \text{ jp}) \cdot t} = 0 \]

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How much Pain & suffering?

Our beliefs act as lenses. These lenses can help us see things we can’t otherwise see, but they can also block us from seeing parts of reality.

-Steve Pavlina

Beliefs: We can convince ourselves of anything... What will you choose to believe?
The End