

## ALTRUISM NOT A BASIS FOR MORALITY

Altruism is not a <sup>biologically</sup> realistic basis for a universal moral code because <sup>one's own</sup> self-preservation and, in general, the tendency to satisfy ~~the~~ basic needs and those of his kin, is stronger than the social "instinct".

Rather than demanding that every man sacrifices himself for the good of others, we should redesign society so that <sup>the need for</sup> such sacrifices be minimized, and be clearly seen to be in the individual's own interest. For instance, if I believe in democracy then I also believe that it is in my own interest, as well as in that of my family, that I devote some of my time to political activities aiming at increasing the general welfare.

In sum <sup>and heroes</sup>, since only saints/can be thoroughly altruistic, and saints and heroes are in short supply, boundless altruism is not a possible basis for morality.

On the other hand bounded or limited altruism is possible and necessary.

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