

EVIL: SOURCE OF

There are many views on the source of evil. They can be classed into supernatural and natural, the latter splitting in turn into biological and sociological. The supernatural view makes the Devil the scapegoat, thus implying that man is innocent. The naturalist views of a biological (or psychological) bent are varied: evil is born from base human instincts, such as aggressiveness and selfishness; or from stupidity or, on the contrary, excessive intelligence. The sociological views boil down to the thesis that, though individuals are born good, or at least neither good nor bad, they are mostly born into unjust societies: what makes some people bad is poverty, alienation, marginality, the lack of attractive prospects, and ignorance.

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1. 27

1. 28