

ETHOGENIC HARM (DAMAGE DONE BY ENFORCING CRUEL OR ANACHRONISTIC MORAL RULES)

. There is always some time lag between the evolution of society and that of morals, and some moral rules are kept although they have long ceased to contribute to individual or social well-being. In such cases enforcing them will cause harm--ethogenic harm.

. Examples: the defense of the national honor, the Biblical injunction "An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth", the well-meaning attempt of missionaries and colonizers to impose their own moral codes on primitive peoples,

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