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# The Moral Landscape How Science Can Determine Hum

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The Moral Psychology Handbook

Waking Up

Morality for Humans

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ALLAH, LIBERTY AND LOVE

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The Moral Landscape

*The Moral Landscape  
How Science Can  
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## **WATSON MCCARTY**

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The Moral Psychology Handbook Vintage  
Do humans have free will? Are we able to make choices and influence our thinking and actions? Or is all of our brain activity just the quivering of atoms based on causal antecedents ignited at the beginning of time? If the latter, then is thinking - including thinking about free will, even possible? Or might it be true that thinking, choosing, and acting in pursuit of goals and values is all just an

illusion? Does science really support the latter, as best-selling author and neuroscientist Sam Harris claims? This essay looks at the issue of free will and determinism based on the writings of Sam Harris in his book 'Free Will.' The materialist view of man that Dr. Harris advocates has been popular for 2,500 years, but is seeing a resurgence as neuroscientists proclaim that recent scientific evidence proves that free will is an illusion. In this essay, author Barry Linetsky outlines the key arguments put forward by Sam Harris as representative of those put forth by determinists and

taught as scientific truths in our universities, and shows how and why such arguments are based on faulty reasoning and why they are more akin to mysticism than reputable science. Barry Linetsky is an entrepreneur, management consultant, and executive advisor to North-American blue-chip corporations. He is the author of *The Business of Walt Disney* and *The Nine Principles of His Success*. He holds an MBA from the Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto, and a Master of Philosophy degree from York University. His articles on business management have been published in the *Ivey Business Journal* and *Rotman Magazine*.

*Waking Up* HarperCollins

In his book, "The Moral Landscape," Sam

Harris attempts to show how science can determine human values. In this book, I argue that Harris's view is false (even though I wish it were true). He gets the facts right, but his conclusions are wrong. Science does rule, but not in the Moral Landscape.

**Morality for Humans** Macmillan  
The Moral Landscape Simon and Schuster  
Simon and Schuster

Through twenty-five lively essays examining the field's history and trends, shortcomings and strengths, and the political and policy interplay within the bioethical realm, this comprehensive book begins a much-needed critical and constructive discussion of the moral landscape of bioethics.

*The Ethics of Bioethics* University of Chicago Press

In a collection of personal essays that are “both rip-roaringly funny and sentimental, drawing natural (and justified) comparisons to David Sedaris and David Rakoff” (*Esquire*), longtime recording artist and actor Sam Harris recounts stories of friendship, love, celebrity, and growing up and getting sober. In sixteen brilliantly observed true stories, Sam Harris emerges as a natural humorist in league with David Sedaris, Chelsea Handler, Carrie Fisher, and Steve Martin, but with a voice uniquely his own. Praised by the *Chicago Sun-Times* for his “manic, witty commentary,” and with a storytelling talent *The New York Times* calls “*New Yorker*-worthy,” he puts a comedic spin on full-disclosure episodes from his own colorful life. In “I Feel, You Feel” he

opens for Aretha Franklin during a blizzard. “Promises” is a front-row account of Liza Minnelli’s infamous wedding to “the man whose name shall go unmentioned.” In “The Zoo Story” Harris desperately searches for a common bond with his rough-and-tumble four-year-old son. What better place to find painfully funny material than in growing up gay, gifted, and ambitious in the heart of the Bible belt? And that’s just the first cut: From partying to parenting, from Sunday school to getting sober, these slices of Ham will have you laughing and wiping away salty tears in equal measure with their universal and down-to-earth appeal. After all, there’s a little ham in all of us.

Islam and the Future of Tolerance OUP  
Oxford

Spengler's work describes how we have entered into a centuries-long "world-historical" phase comparable to late antiquity, and his controversial ideas spark debate over the meaning of historiography.

**Ethical Wisdom** Princeton University Press

Naturalistic ethics is the reigning paradigm among contemporary ethicists; in *God and Cosmos*, David Baggett and Jerry L. Walls argue that this approach is seriously flawed. This book canvasses a broad array of secular and naturalistic ethical theories in an effort to test their adequacy in accounting for moral duties, intrinsic human value, moral knowledge, prospects for radical moral transformation, and the rationality of morality. In each case, the authors

argue, although various secular accounts provide real insights and indeed share common ground with theistic ethics, the resources of classical theism and orthodox Christianity provide the better explanation of the moral realities under consideration. Among such realities is the fundamental insight behind the problem of evil, namely, that the world is not as it should be. Baggett and Walls argue that God and the world, taken together, exhibit superior explanatory scope and power for morality classically construed, without the need to water down the categories of morality, the import of human value, the prescriptive strength of moral obligations, or the deliverances of the logic, language, and phenomenology of moral experience. This book thus provides a cogent moral

argument for God's existence, one that is abductive, teleological, and cumulative.

*Free Will* Crown Forum

"The End of Faith articulates the dangers and absurdities of organized religion so fiercely and so fearlessly that I felt relieved as I read it, vindicated....Harris writes what a sizable number of us think, but few are willing to say."—Natalie Angier, New York Times In *The End of Faith*, Sam Harris delivers a startling analysis of the clash between reason and religion in the modern world. He offers a vivid, historical tour of our willingness to suspend reason in favor of religious beliefs—even when these beliefs inspire the worst human atrocities. While warning against the encroachment of organized religion into

world politics, Harris draws on insights from neuroscience, philosophy, and Eastern mysticism to deliver a call for a truly modern foundation for ethics and spirituality that is both secular and humanistic. Winner of the 2005 PEN/Martha Albrand Award for Nonfiction.

*Making Sense* Simon and Schuster

Winner of the National Outdoor Book Award and the PEN New England Henry David Thoreau Prize. A dazzling, inspiring tour through the ways that humans are working with nature to try to save the planet. With her celebrated blend of scientific insight, clarity, and curiosity, Diane Ackerman explores our human capacity both for destruction and for invention as we shape the future of the planet Earth. Ackerman takes us to

the mind-expanding frontiers of science, exploring the fact that the "natural" and the "human" now inescapably depend on one another, drawing from "fields as diverse as evolutionary robotics...nanotechnology, 3-D printing and biomimicry" (New York Times Book Review), with probing intelligence, a clear eye, and an ever-hopeful heart. *The Human Age: The World Shaped By Us* St. Martin's Griffin

What is knowledge? How does it differ from mere belief? Do you need to be able to justify a claim in order to count as knowing it? How can we know that the outer world is real and not a dream? Questions like these are ancient ones, and the branch of philosophy dedicated to answering them - epistemology - has been active for thousands of years. In

this thought-provoking Very Short Introduction, Jennifer Nagel considers these classic questions alongside new puzzles arising from recent discoveries about humanity, language, and the mind. Nagel explains the formation of major historical theories of knowledge, and shows how contemporary philosophers have developed new ways of understanding knowledge, using ideas from logic, linguistics, and psychology. Covering topics ranging from relativism and the problem of scepticism to the trustworthiness of internet sources, Nagel examines how progress has been made in understanding knowledge, using everyday examples to explain the key issues and debates ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains



hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

Letter to a Christian Nation Simon and Schuster

Calls for an end to religion's role in dictating morality, demonstrating how the scientific community's understandings about the human brain may enable the establishment of secular codes of behavior.

### **The Structure of Moral Revolutions**

Yale University Press

This book lays out foundations for a "science of morals." Binmore uses game

theory as a systematic tool for investigating ethical matters. He reinterprets classical social contract ideas within a game-theory framework and generates new insights into the fundamental questions of social philosophy. In contrast to the previous writing in moral philosophy that relied on vague notion such as "societal well-being" and "moral duty," Binmore begins with individuals; rational decision-makers with the ability to empathize with one another. Any social arrangement that prescribes them to act against their interests will become unstable and eventually will be replaced by another, until one is found that includes worthwhile actions for all individuals involved.

Mining the Moral Landscape Oxford

University Press

As it was in *Anna Karenina*, *Madame Bovary*, and *Othello*, so it is in life. Most forms of private vice and public evil are kindled and sustained by lies. Acts of adultery and other personal betrayals, financial fraud, government corruption—even murder and genocide—generally require an additional moral defect: a willingness to lie. In *Lying*, best-selling author and neuroscientist Sam Harris argues that we can radically simplify our lives and improve society by merely telling the truth in situations where others often lie. He focuses on "white" lies—those lies we tell for the purpose of sparing people discomfort—for these are the lies that most often tempt us. And they tend to be the only lies that good people tell

while imagining that they are being good in the process.

[The Whys of a Philosophical Scrivener](#)  
Princeton University Press

One of the most provocative science books ever published—"a feast of great thinking and writing about the most profound issues there are" (*The New York Times Book Review*). "Fiercely intelligent, beautifully written and engrossingly original." —*The New York Times Book Review* Are men literally born to cheat? Does monogamy actually serve women's interests? These are among the questions that have made *The Moral Animal* one of the most provocative science books in recent years. Wright unveils the genetic strategies behind everything from our sexual preferences to our office

politics—as well as their implications for our moral codes and public policies. Illustrations.

*Summary of Sam Harris's The Moral Landscape* Four Elephants Press

The Moral Psychology Handbook offers a survey of contemporary moral psychology, integrating evidence and argument from philosophy and the human sciences. The chapters cover major issues in moral psychology, including moral reasoning, character, moral emotion, positive psychology, moral rules, the neural correlates of ethical judgment, and the attribution of moral responsibility. Each chapter is a collaborative effort, written jointly by leading researchers in the field.

**God and Cosmos** Simon and Schuster  
Please note: This is a companion version

& not the original book. Sample Book Insights: #1 I am not suggesting that science can give us an evolutionary or neurobiological account of what people do in the name of morality. I am arguing that science can, in principle, help us understand what we should do and want, and what other people should do and want to live the best lives possible. #2 There is no such thing as moral truth, only moral preference, opinion, and emotional reactions. However, we can understand how human beings think and behave in the name of morality. #3 It is true that moral facts are subjective, but this does not mean that all talk of morality is subjective. I am not denying the necessarily subjective component of the facts under discussion when I say that there are right and wrong answers

to moral questions. #4 The idea of moral truth is difficult to discuss because people often use a double standard when thinking about consensus: they consider scientific consensus to mean that scientific truths exist, and they consider scientific controversy to be merely a sign that more work remains to be done.

*Moral Psychology and Human Agency*

Simon and Schuster

Invaluable wisdom on living a good life from one of the Enlightenment's greatest philosophers David Hume (1711–1776) is perhaps best known for his ideas about cause and effect and his criticisms of religion, but he is rarely thought of as a philosopher with practical wisdom to offer. Yet Hume's philosophy is grounded in an honest assessment of

nature—human nature in particular. The Great Guide is an engaging and eye-opening account of how Hume's thought should serve as the basis for a complete approach to life. In this enthralling book, Julian Baggini masterfully interweaves biography with intellectual history and philosophy to give us a complete vision of Hume's guide to life. He follows Hume on his life's journey, literally walking in the great philosopher's footsteps as Baggini takes readers to the places that inspired Hume the most, from his family estate near the Scottish border to Paris, where, as an older man, he was warmly embraced by French society. Baggini shows how Hume put his philosophy into practice in a life that blended reason and passion, study and leisure, and relaxation and enjoyment. The Great

Guide includes 145 Humean maxims for living well, on topics ranging from the meaning of success and the value of travel to friendship, facing death, identity, and the importance of leisure. This book shows how life is far richer with Hume as your guide.

*The Believing Primate* Harvard University Press

The bestseller that challenges conventional thinking about morality, politics, and religion in a way that speaks to conservatives and liberals alike—a “landmark contribution to humanity’s understanding of itself” (The New York Times Book Review). Drawing on his twenty-five years of groundbreaking research on moral psychology, social psychologist Jonathan Haidt shows how moral judgments arise

not from reason but from gut feelings. He shows why liberals, conservatives, and libertarians have such different intuitions about right and wrong, and he shows why each side is actually right about many of its central concerns. In this subtle yet accessible book, Haidt gives you the key to understanding the miracle of human cooperation, as well as the curse of our eternal divisions and conflicts. If you’re ready to trade in anger for understanding, read *The Righteous Mind*.

*The Great Guide* Oxford University Press  
In recent years, many disciplines have become interested in the scientific study of morality. However, a conceptual framework for this work is still lacking. In *The Moral Background*, Gabriel Abend develops just such a framework and uses

it to investigate the history of business ethics in the United States from the 1850s to the 1930s. According to Abend, morality consists of three levels: moral and immoral behavior, or the behavioral level; moral understandings and norms, or the normative level; and the moral background, which includes what moral concepts exist in a society, what moral methods can be used, what reasons can be given, and what objects can be morally evaluated at all. This background underlies the behavioral and normative levels; it supports, facilitates, and enables them. Through this perspective, Abend historically examines the work of numerous business ethicists and organizations—such as Protestant ministers, business associations, and business schools—and identifies two

types of moral background. "Standards of Practice" is characterized by its scientific worldview, moral relativism, and emphasis on individuals' actions and decisions. The "Christian Merchant" type is characterized by its Christian worldview, moral objectivism, and conception of a person's life as a unity. The Moral Background offers both an original account of the history of business ethics and a novel framework for understanding and investigating morality in general.

[The Moral Animal](#) Crossway

From a bestselling author—"a riveting, fun, and insightful tour of life's meaning and purpose, essential reading for anyone drawn to the query, 'How ought we to live?'" (Daniel Goleman, author of Emotional Intelligence) Contrary to what

we've been taught in our reason-obsessed culture, argues Matousek, emotions are the bedrock of ethical life; without them, human beings cannot be empathic, moral, or good. But how do we make the judgment call between self-interest and caring for others? What does being good really mean? Which parts of morality are biological, which ethical? When should instinct be trusted and when does it lead us into trouble?

How can we know ourselves to be good amidst the hypocrisy, fears, and sabotaging appetites that pervade our two-sided natures? Drawing on the latest scientific research and interviews with social scientists, spiritual leaders, ex-cons, altruists, and philosophers, Matousek examines morality from all angles in this thoroughly entertaining and helpful guide to crossing one's own murky moral terrain.

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