

SANE OR INSANE?

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Follow your Conscience, not The Crowd or Public Opinion

Stick First to Morality, next to Legality

Not what everybody does is right

Story

Many, many years ago in a far away country, there was an unmapped village inhabited by some queer people. *Except for two persons in that village*, all the rest had taken leave of their senses. They acted in the craziest, most perverted and wicket ways anyone could imagine. *Only those two persons refused to conform to the mad and insane ways of their fellow villagers. They stuck to their conscience* and behaved in the acceptable and normal way people in a sane and decent society do.

Seeing those two people acting differently from the common man, the villagers thought that there was something wrong with them. They branded them as mad, wicked and queer. *The elders and the authorities of the village thought it was their duty to take those two "queer" and "strange" fellows to book.*

They summoned them and strictly warned them to change their ways, or else... When the elders' warnings and threats did not bring the expected change, the Village Council declared those rebels incorrigibly mad and wicked: so had them locked up in a little cottage outside the village. They warned them: "*You will remain locked in this cottage until you learn to behave normally like all of us do.*"

After a long time, *one of two rebels lost his head and turned really insane.* With great rejoicing *The Village Council declared him "normal"* and accepted him in the bosom of the village community. **The other, the incurably mad man, the one who stubbornly stuck to his conscience - remained in the lock-up until death..**

Reflections For Life Arising From The Story

- **The moral nature of our actions - *their goodness or badness* - cannot not change**, only our thinking and feeling about them changes
- One thing is **morality** – *what's right and praise-worthy before God* – another, is **legality** – *what's acceptable and not punishable by human authorities.*
- **Not all that's "legal"**, (namely, *allowed by human authority*), **is necessarily – "moral"** (namely *allowed by God*)
- **Often enough, legal actions** (*tings allowed by human authority*) **are immoral**, (*forbidden by God*), for instance, abortion, prostitution, mercy killing etc..
- Civil authorities **by legalizing immoral actions**, can mislead us and coax us to believe **to be moral what's immoral.**
- **You may do only what's moral, namely, what's acceptable by God according to your conscience.**

- You have to do always what **your conscience tells you**, not what the crowd or public opinion, **or not even necessarily what civil authority tells you or allows you to do!**
- Walk at the head of a crowd , not at the rear
- Do not be a **faceless number** in an anonymous crowd; stand up above the crowd and make **your face known**.
- When immersed in a crowd, be aware! **Don't let your conscience be drowned**
- Stand and **walk on your legs**, not on those of the public pinion, or on those of the powers that are!
- **Not what everybody does is the right thing to do.**
- Propaganda and advertising, try **to program us like robots and make us act automatically without thinking or reflecting what's right or wrong.**
- **Be your own programmer.**
- Advertising is the art of bluffing. It promises what it cannot deliverer.
- Advertisers are not motivated b by truth or love, but by greed and gains.
- Non-reflected actions become habits, habits become ruts, and ruts become imprisoning walls. .
- A sin committed many a time - **though it is** one – it ceases to be a sin.
- Watch, before you leap. It's easy to jump into a well, not so easy to jump out of it.
- There is a little sheep inside every man, , slaughter it before your conscience is slaughtered by outside public opinion and advertising.
- Be a **shepherd** not a sheep
- Be **the engine** not a coach.
- Though we may descend from apes. let us blindly refuse to ape others
- Be aware, When your emotions are ruffled, **your mind gets muddy. Wait...**
- **Don't be a reactor, but an actor. . .**