

Given a Reason to Kill: How to Justify Killing as a Rational Act

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✓ Verified Book of Given a Reason to Kill: How to Justify Killing as a Rational Act

Summary:

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'Given a Reason to Kill' presents you with a plausible template for understanding the internal and external forces which exhort some to exhibit behaviours considered as "Pure Evil". These reprehensible acts can shockingly be justified as rational by those committing the crime.

It would seem that the news today is full reports of appalling violence being inflicted on individuals and communities. The civilised world stands back shocked at the casual barbarity of the Islamic State, as its army seeks to sweep across Syria and Iraq causing entire populations to flee in terror. Many of us find ourselves unable to understand how an individual can revel in the horror of carrying out acts beyond belief. Sadly, this is nothing new. Humanity has been here before and will be here again " all too soon.

'Given a Reason to Kill' demonstrates just how difficult it is to argue against the proposal that most of us can be compelled to kill. The motivation to kill can arise from psychotic tendencies, personal survival, or as a consequence of external forces which objectify the "Other" as less than Human.

With that proposal firmly in mind let me set out my stall. What are the roles of Free Will and Choice in all of this? When externally obliged violence through compulsion or indoctrination negates both roles, what are the psychological implications for the mental health of the individual, community and nation?

That which concerns me is the apparent ease with which we can sink into violence and killing when certain predictable circumstances gather momentum. In order to augment our understanding in order to fully comprehend both sides of the argument then we must, I believe, embrace the idea that stymies Humanity, that, Man is not a rational Being but a Being who Rationalises. Therein resides our downfall.

Finally. Although Given a Reason to Kill is set out as an academic piece it remains a readable and thought-provoking journey along a very familiar and yet inevitable path.

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