# There are lots of bad concepts in the Book of Mormon

Mormonism / LDS Scripture / Book of Mormon

+8

# Reasons to agree:

| Arguments  | Argument<br>Score | Linkage<br>Score | Unique<br>Score | Total<br>Score |
|--|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| It was wrong of the Book of Mormon God to tell Nephi to kill Laban.  | <u>+6</u>         | 100%             | 100%            | 6              |
| 2. It is wrong for the book of Mormon to It was wrong for Alma the<br>Younger to cut people's arms off for trying to steal sheep. That does<br>not add up. The punishment should fit the crime. Without arms,<br>someone would starve to death, in the olden days. Theft is wrong. But<br>if God was on their side, why couldn't he just knock them out or<br>something?   | 0                 | 100%             | 100%            | 0              |
| 3. Helaman Chapter 1 Verse 8 justifies committing someone to death for a crime they were about to do. Maybe I'm reading it wrong. A lot of people would read this verse, and say that the verse does not justify this action, it just tells what happened. Besides, even in our society, conspiracy to commit a crime is still a crime, although we would find it is wrong to put someone to death over it. However, Obama kills Terrorist, by raining down missiles on them if they are self described terrorist, even if they have not yet committed a crime, or at least I am sure that this has happened a couple of times. But if God came to you and showed you Hitler, and was able to convince you that he really was going to do bad things, and he really could convince you that he was God and Not the Devil, than you probably should kill Hitler I know all this sounds like crazy stuff. Trust me. I'm not crazy, but talking of all this stuff (God, the Devil, and Hitler) is the quickest and easiest way to discuss an issue Of course we have to abandon all these | 0                 | 100%             | 100%            | 0              |

| Reasons to agree subargument total score: |  |  |  | 6 |  |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| 5   |  |  |  |   |  |
| 4.  |  |  |  |   |  |
|   | discussions in our day-to-day lives, if we are not writing scripture. But if we are going to evaluate the validity of scripture, we have to enter the world where God and the Devil are possibilities. |  |  |   |  |

## Reasons to disagree:

| Argument   | Argument<br>Score | Linkage<br>Score | Unique<br>Score | Total<br>Score |
|--|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. Mormons will say that, like the Bible, the book of Mormon is simple, and will not amaze scholars that are looking for new or complex ideas. They will say that part of what is great about the book of Mormon is the stuff that it leaves out that are inaccurate views about God. Sure paradise lost is a pretty good book, but Milton wrote it is as fiction. Mormons will try to say their books is different than paradise lost in that they believe it is not fiction, and they believe the doctrine of the book of Mormon is more bulletproof than Milton's doctrine, not that it would compare on literary measurements. | 0                 | 100%             | 100%            | 0              |
| 2.   |                   |                  |                 |                |
| Total  |                   |                  | 0               |                |

Reasons to agree: +3

Reasons to disagree: -1

Subargument score for reasons to agree: +6

Subargument score for reasons to disagree: +0

Total: +8

Don't like the score? It is easy to change. Just change its score by weaken it or strengthen it, by posting reasons to agree or disagree, show that the linkage between argument and conclusions are not valid, or show that arguments are redundant.

## Most probable interest of those who publicly agree: (3)

| Arguments   | Interest<br>Validity<br>Score | Linkage<br>Score | Unique<br>Score | Total<br>Score |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Making the Church look bad, to validate their life choices. |                               | 100%             | 100%            | 0              |
| Making the Church look bad, so it will change.              |                               | 100%             | 100%            | 0              |
| 3. Telling the truth.                                       |                               | 100%             | 100%            | 0              |
| 4.  |                               |                  |                 |                |
|   | •                             | •                | Total           | 6              |

## Most probable interest of those who publicly disagree: (3)

| Argument   | Argument<br>Score | Linkage<br>Score | Unique<br>Score | Total<br>Score |
|--|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Making the Church look good, to validate their life choices. |                   | 50%              | 50%             |                |
| 2.   |                   | 50%              | 50%             |                |
|  |                   |                  | Total           |                |

# Most important <u>common</u> interest between those who agree and disagree:

| Argument  | Argument<br>Score | Linkage<br>Score | Unique<br>Score | Total<br>Score |
|---|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Improving the lives of women.   |                   | 50%              | 50%             |                |
| 2. The desire to be ethical   |                   |                  |                 |                |
| Those inside and outside of the Church will at least give lip service to wanting the world to be more honest and transparent. |                   |                  |                 |                |
|   |                   |                  | Total           |                |

# Most important opposing interest between those who agree and disagree:

|    | Argument   | Argument<br>Score | Linkage<br>Score | Unique<br>Score | Total<br>Score |
|----|--|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. | Willingness to "lie for the lord".   |                   | 50%              | 50%             |                |
| 2. | The belief that God justifies actions that might help "his church" even if they don't seem ethical.  |                   |                  |                 |                |
| 3. | The believe that god will only advance his cause through righteousness and ethical means.  |                   |                  |                 |                |
| 4. | Differences in how strongly they feel that not telling the whole truth is the same as lying.   |                   |                  |                 |                |
| 5. | Differences in how much they trust god in leading people to where they need to be vs how much responsibility they feel for keeping people in the Church by saying the right things, or presenting things in the most pleasing way. |                   |                  |                 |                |

| _ |       |  |
|---|-------|--|
|   | Total |  |

#### **Explanation**

I would like to outline the arguments related to Mormonism in linked Google Documents. I am putting thesis statements at the top of the page, with reasons to agree or disagree in separate columns. When you click on a reason to agree or disagree, it will take you to a new page where that arguments becomes its own thesis statement, with reasons to agree or disagree with it.

I want those supporting and opposing their church to put forward their best arguments on each topic.

#### Please Help!

If you have a google account, I can grant you the ability to edit the documents.

Feel free to invite other people who are willing to live with the understanding that there might be another side.

The topics can all be found here:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B1YFAV\_d4jtJTlBPTHgtWk9BTVU?usp=sharing

#### Rules

Don't delete. If you don't think a point is valid, create a link making it a new thesis statement and post reasons to disagree with it.