

How much Responsibility Should We have for our Own Welfare?

Can we choose everything that happens to us? Do we have the power to create and live the life we choose? Or is the power in the hands of government, or some unseen force or an omnipotent god?

Does living in modern society pervert our views of individual responsibility? Do we live in a culture of blame and victimization such that we do not share accountability for our own welfare— physically, emotionally and spiritually. Are we also in danger of developing a culture of dependency on government?

Alternatively, are we God's children whose fate is dependent on some higher being? Is it therefore challenging to view ourselves as mature, autonomous beings who are ultimately responsible for our own fates, and to recognise we are the true makers of our own lives? Would this require a view of God not as our father but rather our equal?

If it's true that we choose everything that happens to us, then do we need to critically examine our life experiences to understand the purpose they have and how they shape our personal growth? This would require that we first acknowledge and own our individual responsibility for our decisions and actions. Also for us to see ourselves not as victims but as the architects of our reality.

Can we accept that we alone are responsible for our lives and everything that happens to us? This demands complete compassion towards ourselves and those who may have hurt or disappointed us. We need to accept our personal responsibility toward our own lives and then recognize how it plays into our collective responsibility toward one another, the recognition that all of our decisions impact others.

How much responsibility, and how much control, do you have of your life?

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Life Doesn't Just Happen: Taking Responsibility for Who We Are.

Vivian Winslow

Wherever you are, be there totally. If you find your here and now intolerable and it makes you unhappy, you have three options: remove yourself from the situation, change it, or accept it totally. If you want to take responsibility for your life, you must choose one of those three options, and you must choose now. Then accept the consequences.

Eckhart Tolle

“Man is condemned to be free; because once thrown into the world, he is responsible for everything he does. It is up to you to give life a meaning.”

Jean-Paul Sartre

“There is an expiry date on blaming your parents for steering you in the wrong direction; the moment you are old enough to take the wheel, responsibility lies with you.”

J.K. Rowling

“Attack the evil that is within yourself, rather than attacking the evil that is in others.”

Confucius

“If you could kick the person in the pants responsible for most of your trouble, you wouldn't sit for a month.”

Theodore Roosevelt

“Manliness consists not in bluff, bravado or loneliness. It consists in daring to do the right thing and facing consequences whether it is in matters social, political or other. It consists in deeds not words.”

Gandhi

“No snowflake in an avalanche ever feels responsible.”

Stanisław Jerzy Lec

A table, a chair, a bowl of fruit and a violin; what else does a man need to be happy?

Albert Einstein

Money is better than poverty, if only for financial reasons.

Woody Allen

“There’s not a chance we’ll reach our full potential until we stop blaming each other and start practicing personal accountability.” **John Miller**

Friendship is always a sweet responsibility, never an opportunity. **Khalil Gibran**

We are made wise not by the recollection of our past, but by the responsibility for our future. **G B Shaw**

The greatest gifts you can give your children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence. **Denis Waitley**

A hero is someone who understands the responsibility that comes with his freedom. **Bob Dylan**

You cannot hope to build a better world without improving the individuals. To that end, each of us must work for his own improvement and, at the same time, share a general responsibility for all humanity, our particular duty being to aid those to whom we think we can be most useful. **Marie Curie**

Most people do not really want freedom, because freedom involves responsibility, and most people are frightened of responsibility. **Sigmund Freud**

I believe that every right implies a responsibility; every opportunity, an obligation; every possession, a duty. **John D. Rockefeller**

Today, more than ever before, life must be characterized by a sense of Universal responsibility, not only nation to nation and human to human, but also human to other forms of life. **Dalai Lama**

Man becomes great exactly in the degree in which he works for the welfare of his fellow-men. **Gandhi**

The police are the public and the public are the police; the police being only members of the public who are paid to give full time attention to duties which are incumbent on every citizen in the interests of community welfare and existence. **Robert Peel**

Until the great mass of the people shall be filled with the sense of responsibility for each other's welfare, social justice can never be attained. **Helen Keller**

Far more has been accomplished for the welfare and progress of mankind by preventing bad actions than by doing good ones. **William Lyon Mackenzie King**

The welfare state is not really about the welfare of the masses. It is about the egos of the elites. **Tom Sowell**

The true basis of morality is utility; that is, the adaptation of our actions to the promotion of the general welfare and happiness; the endeavour so to rule our lives that we may serve and bless mankind. **Ann Besant**

Power has only one duty - to secure the social welfare of the People. **Benjamin Disraeli**

The welfare of the people in particular has always been the alibi of tyrants. **Albert Camus**

The value of a man should be seen in what he gives and not in what he is able to receive. **Albert Einstein**

Organized crime in America takes in over forty billion dollars a year and spends very little on office supplies. **Woody Allen**