




Nihiltheism VS Existentialism

Almost Polar Opposites

A superficial interpretation would claim similarities

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Nihiltheism and Existentialism Compared

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1. **Nihiltheism:**

- Rooted in traditional nihilism, Nihiltheism posits the Nothingness of existence as a construct that may embody the Transcendent or Divine.
- It encourages active engagement with Nothingness, viewing it as a reminder of the Transcendent and a call to renounce worldly attachments.
- Nihiltheism incorporates elements from existentialism, but it goes further by integrating a Transcendent or Divine aspect into the understanding of Nothingness.
- It involves a mystical or spiritual dimension, often explored through practices like meditation or psychedelic experiences.
- Morally, it advocates a stance of "non-movement," akin to extreme pacifism or Taoist non-engagement.

2. **Existentialism:**

- Focuses on individual freedom, choice, and subjective experience.
- Stresses the absence of inherent meaning in the universe, leaving humans responsible for creating their own meaning and purpose.
- Existentialism often confronts existential despair, but unlike Nihiltheism, it doesn't typically advocate for immersion into this despair as a pathway to the Transcendent.
- It lacks the explicit emphasis on a transcendent or divine dimension found in Nihiltheism.
- Ethically, existentialism emphasizes personal responsibility and authenticity in one's actions and choices.

Articulated Response (AR):

Nihiltheism and existentialism both grapple with the concept of Nothingness and the human response to it. Nihiltheism, however, extends beyond existentialism's focus on individual freedom and meaning-making. It posits the Nothingness of existence as possibly embodying the Transcendent, suggesting a mystical or divine aspect to this void. Nihiltheism advocates for a deep engagement with Nothingness, not

just as an existential condition but as a pathway to understanding or experiencing the divine. This contrasts with existentialism's emphasis on personal responsibility and authenticity in creating meaning, often in the absence of any perceived higher power or order. In essence, while both philosophies explore the human condition in a universe devoid of inherent meaning, Nihiltheism introduces a spiritual dimension to this exploration, which is not a central concern in existentialism.