**OVERCOMING MORAL INTUITION AND POLITICAL DETERMINISM (7 votes)**

[**BenChida**](https://courses.edx.org/courses/HarvardX/ER22x/2013_Spring/discussion/forum/users/1330541)*a day ago*

Posted by: pabloirizar

Dear Prof. Sandel,

My name is Pablo, I live and work in Montréal, Québec. I have been following your course avidly. I love it! Thank you.

There seems to be a "political determinism" in the way societies "evolve" towards becoming open and tolerant towards differences of ethnicity, religion, economic status, sexual orientation and so on. A frightening thought came to me last night as I considered this: I thought that perhaps the ultimate outcomes of this "political determinism", the final stage of political evolution is a complete dissociation from moral "intuition" (to which you often appeal). In a way this is part of Rawl's Original Position. Do you think that overcoming our intuition of the moral sense (at least formally in the political sphere) is an inevitable result of politically evolved societies?

Thank you kindly, Pablo

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(this post is about [Live Question and Answer Session with Professor Sandel, Part 2 / Top Vote-Getting Questions](https://courses.edx.org/courses/HarvardX/ER22x/2013_Spring/jump_to/i4x:/HarvardX/ER22x/discussion/6efbd5d53d5241b6bf99409448272104))

1. [0](javascript:void(0))[**EdSilha**](https://courses.edx.org/courses/HarvardX/ER22x/2013_Spring/discussion/forum/users/1032045)

*a day ago*

The US Supreme Court has evolved to a position of requiring a valid secular purpose (i.e., a logical purpose) and significant state interest for a law that limits personal freedom to be considered constitutional.

In the past, moral intuition has lead to the validation of slavery, prohibition of miscegenation, denial of voting rights for women and minorities, etc. It has at times been based on religious or superstitious beliefs (e.g., laws concerning witchcraft and demonic possession).

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