

The only purpose for which power can be rightfully exercised over any member of a civilized community, against his will, is to prevent harm to others. His own good, either physical or moral, is not a sufficient warrant. He cannot rightfully be compelled to do or forbear because it will be better for him to do so, because it will make him happier, because, in the opinion of others, to do so would be wise, or even right... The only part of the conduct of anyone, for which he is amenable to society, is that which concerns others. In the part which merely concerns himself, his independence is, of right, absolute. Over himself, over his own body and mind, the individual is sovereign.

— John Stuart Mill,

What is John Stuart Mill saying here?

He is referring to the libertarian view of the "Harm Principle" - meaning one should do what they please as long as no one is neg. affected to an extent.

What are some examples of laws created to prevent us from harming others?

- Public smoking
- Anti-trust laws
- Pollution laws
- Regulations on products

What are some examples of laws created to help us make better decisions for our personal lives?

- Junk food laws/taxes
- Drug regulation ~~is~~ not very good.
- Alcohol
- 18+ content etc.

Someone would agree with this quote because:

They believe in individual liberty, but also share a collective good.

Someone would disagree with this quote because:

They think more regulation or less regulation could produce a positive outcome.

My opinion of the quote:

- I agree, one should choose self directed prosperity as long as it's not at the cost of others & their wellbeing to an extent.