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Sartre’s Atheistic Existentialism

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# Introduction

This study essay will examine Jean-Paul Sartre's atheistic existentialism and philosophical outlook. In his belief that each person must find their own meaning and purpose in life, Sartre strongly emphasised personal freedom and responsibility. This kind of thinking caused people to feel helpless and hopeless, but Sartre claimed that these emotions might spur people on to find their purposes. The essay will analyse Sartre's philosophy and determine if he successfully articulates a clear atheistic perspective.

# Body

Jean-Paul Sartre is one of the most critical philosophers of history, having a solid advocacy towards atheistic existentialism that was a philosophy; “emphasizes individual freedom and choice in the face of the absence of God or any objective meaning or purpose to life” (ISANBOR 6). Rationally Sartre established atheistic existentialism via the channel of his analytical cores over the conditions of humans followed by the human consciousness. Primarily Sartre argued that human beings are sole free entities that are critically accountable and responsible for their actions. In reality, this sense of freedom acted as a critical source of stress and practical anxiety. Extending more in a similar direction, Sartre added that there was no God or any other external force that possessed the power to provide the true meaning or purpose of human life; instead, humans must have to create their purpose and meaning of life by the route of their actions and choices (Kiran 490). Additionally, Sartre thought this freedom and responsibility led to a feeling of existential agony since people had to face the truth that their lives were meaningless. Sartre also viewed this as a chance for people to live genuinely and establish meaning and purpose (Macias 160). Hence, Sartre founded atheistic existentialism by highlighting the individual's freedom and responsibility.

Anguish and Despair recognized as two of the most critical components within the dynamics of atheistic existentialism. In this direction Sartre argued that in the alignment with the absence concept of the God or the purpose and meaning of the life, the class of human beings left behind with a sense of existential anguish. This sense of anguish primarily generated from the recognition thought that; “*our lives have no inherent meaning or purpose, and that we are ultimately responsible for creating our own meaning and purpose through our choices and actions*” (Harrison 61). Contrary to this the freedom and the sole responsibility that accompanied by the atheistic existentialism eventually lead towards the feeling of despair because the individuals may found it very hard to find the true meaning or purpose of the life. In compliance to that, Sartre presented an argument that, instead of giving into inauthenticity or resignation, people must face this sadness and utilise it as a spark to create their own meaning and purpose (Gallagher 7). As a result, despair and anguish were inevitable outcomes of the human situation, but they may also be a source of motivation and inspiration, according to atheistic existentialism.

The atheistic existentialism of JP Sartre offered a coherent position as it successfully provided a systematic and rational analysis of human life and the human conditions in the absence of god or the actual objective and purpose of life. The philosophy of Sartre emphasized the core concept of freedom and responsibility. It argued that human beings must create their purpose and meaning in life through the correct decision-making and critical actions (Akinola 4). However, some prominent critics claimed that because Sartre's approach rejects the existence of any objective standards or ideals by which to assess human life, it eventually leads to nihilism or relativism. Furthermore, Sartre's emphasis on the individual ignores the significance of social and historical context in influencing human experience (Lind and Nobre 933). Hence, Sartre's atheistic existentialism is a significant and essential ideology that encourages people to consider existential issues despite these objections.

# Conclusion

By focusing on an individual's freedom and responsibility in the lack of any external source of meaning or purpose, Sartre founded atheistic existentialism. This school of thought encourages people to define their meaning and purpose in life and accept the ambiguity and worry that accompany it. According to atheistic existentialism, anger and despair are natural outcomes of the human condition. However, they can also serve as a source of inspiration and motivation for people to live authentically and create meaning and purpose. This was further explained in the study essay. Atheistic existentialism ultimately encourages people to accept the ambiguity and uneasiness of life and to accept responsibility for their own lives. Lastly, the essay established that Sartre's atheistic existentialism, despite its detractors, continues to be an essential and influential school of thought that encourages people to address existential issues surrounding human existence and to assume ownership of their own lives in the face of uncertainty and fear.

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