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Posted by u/Narcissista [INTJ](#) 3 years ago


INTJ moral compass and morality switch?

So, I've only realized semi-recently that my own moral code is entirely different than that of most people. I have a very means-justifies-the-ends type of attitude, and I'm wondering if this is an INTJ thing or not. I'd really like to hear comments from both INTJ's and from other MBTI personality types on this (particularly INTP's).

Let me explain a little better. This world is awful and full of suffering. The rich, strong, and/or greedy prey on the poor, weak, naive, and generous. There are people that seem to fulfill only one purpose in life--to take advantage of and harm those around them. They contribute nothing to society, but instead are a detriment to anyone who come near them. And I fully believe that society would be better off without these people. That said, I would have absolutely no qualms killing them (though I don't like the idea of prison and have thus refrained). These people are miserable half the time anyway, they're often better off dead, and the rest of us are better off with them dead (whether they're miserable or not, in fact). Why not kill them if all they do is harm us? I, honestly, see no reason not to.

That's my view, anyway. It would seem that others don't share it very much, and that it is, in fact, quite controversial, which is why I am especially curious about the opinions of other INTJ's.

Now, THAT said, my morals are also different in other areas. A close friend of mine (INTP) and I recently got into a bit of a dispute, and I was surprised at how irritated he got that my opinion on this matter differed from his, because he doesn't seem to mind, normally, if people have differing opinions, as long as those opinions don't cause harm to others (I'm similar in this respect--people can feel/think whatever they want, provided it isn't bringing harm to those around them). The argument was over whether or not drug dealers belong in prison. Let me elaborate--we had been watching a T.V. show (I won't say which to avoid spoilers) and one of the people in the show, a member of law enforcement, killed three other characters (completely irrelevant to the show's plot, but I'll go on). The first character was a murderer, the second a sex trafficker, and the last a drug dealer. I casually remarked that I could understand killing the murderer and sex trafficker, that I was glad he had, actually, but not the drug dealer. My INTP friend mentioned it afterwards and tried to explain to me why he could understand the reason that the guy had killed the drug dealer (though he doesn't really condone killing as a solution, unlike me), hence our dispute. My view of it is that the drug dealer is not ACTIVELY harming other people; he is, in fact, providing the means to which people can harm themselves. But unless he's forcing people to buy his drugs, which wasn't implied in the show, then why should he be punished?

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the gun being sold has the potential to not only harm the mentally unstable person, but anyone they happen to point the gun at, provided it's locked and loaded. If the salesman (or woman) is specifically selling guns to mentally unstable people with the intent that those people harm others, then he/she should be punished; if he/she is just a gun salesman doing business as usual, illegally or not, there should be no punishment. After all, business is business. If people want to buy, that should be their choice, and if they want to use, that should also be their choice, but the person providing these means does not make the choice on how the person with the means uses them. So... why should a drug dealer/illegal gun salesman be punished at all?

My whole point with this post is that I don't believe people should be punished for simply doing things to further their own gain, without directly harming anyone else. And the law is no help in this case (though it never really is in these matters). I absolutely do not believe that the law is right "just because" it's the law, I give little credit to authority over all because laws are human-made and humans are fallible creatures, and authority figures are humans as well. There have been many cases where police officers have done things to further their own gain while harming others, just as many other humans without a badge and gun have. I trust myself, more than anyone else, to make decisions regarding morality. And my own view of morality is: do what is necessary to survive and what is desired to live, without actively/intentionally doing harm to the rest of society.

What do the rest of you, INTJ and not, think? Do you have your own moral code, or do you generally follow along with society's? And if you do have your own moral code, what is it (if you don't mind sharing)?

That said, there was something else I wanted to bring up while I'm on the subject that I've been wondering about for awhile. Basically, it seems like even though I have my own moral code, which I attempt to follow, I'm capable of switching it off if necessary. I guess I might just call it the 'cold switch' since I typically go completely emotionally cold if I do this.

For example: just last night, I had a discussion with a friend of mine on the topic of feeding live animals to pets. She mentioned how when it comes to feeding live mice/rats to snakes, you're supposed to stun them by swinging them by the tail and smacking them against a hard surface. Now, my initial reaction was to be appalled and horrified, with the thought that I wouldn't be able to do that (I'm largely against harming animals in any circumstances except self-defense). However, I realized that if I had a pet snake, I would be able to turn that 'cold switch' and do what is necessary, even if it's against my own moral code to not harm animals, and that I wouldn't feel a thing about it; what must be done must be done, and that's simply how it is.

Now, I don't know if this is exactly a 'cold switch' or if it's just a 'deal-with-it' type of switch. In the past, when I've gone to the dentist (I'm using this example because I absolutely, utterly, completely HATE going to the dentist), I've learned how to turn the sort of 'deal-with-it' switch and it makes things a lot easier. This also goes for speaking in front of a group of people--something else I abhor. In fact, I've been able to do this with pretty much any circumstance that I normally would really want to avoid. Maybe it's ONLY a deal-with-it switch and just sort of encompasses morality as well? I'm not sure, but so far no one else has ever mentioned this type of thing to me before, or really been able to understand very well when I've tried explaining/asking.

Can anyone else relate to this?

Sorry for the long post, I'm the worst at summarizing.

TL;DR: Do you think drug dealers/illegal gun salesmen should be punished for their dealings/selling? Would you be willing to get rid of those in society that only do harm for the betterment of the est of society? Do you agree with society's moral code, or have your own? Do you have a deal-with-it/cold switch that allows you to do/deal with things you normally would be completely against or want to avoid all together?

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My questions to you are:

1. Do you believe people can be reformed and trained to be better? The whole thing about killing people is it's pretty final. There's no more opportunities. Supposedly prison is an opportunity to be rehabilitated, same with drug rehab or therapy in general.

2. How long do humans get as a trial life period before you cancel their subscription to breathe? How often will you review their suitability that they can remain a subscriber to "life"?

3. How many failures do they get before it's game over?

4. How do you quantify the failure? Is molesting a child worth 9/10, raping a woman 8/10, sodomizing a man 7/10, abusing a SO 6/10, etc? Is raping a stranger better or worse than raping a friend or family member?



5. Is your moral compass subjective or objective? Would you rate a human failure as worse because you experienced it? For instance, if you have been robbed, would you rate that as a higher failure? Would you be able to be objective to people you know, and objective if that person harmed you or your loved ones?

6. How do you ensure your moral compass is accurate and valid in determining who lives and dies?

When I was younger I was all about this type of stuff. I became a Christian later on and saw that there is value and purpose in every life. Even if people do not live up to it, they still have it instilled


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

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

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