

The Most Moral Choice

A Haiku Essay

most living things die
by being eaten alive
by a predator

“selfish genes” don’t care
about our petty comforts,
only our species

pain evolved to serve
the survival of our breed
at each one’s expense

what is life’s virtue
if its price is suffering
of sentient creatures?

our most moral choice:
bring no new life to the world,
break trauma’s cycle

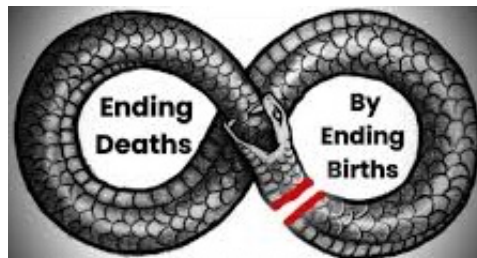


Image source: Tamil Antinatalism

Antinatalism is an ethical philosophy holding that procreation is morally wrong since, across all sentient creatures—human and nonhuman, from present-day to the end of descendancy—the amount of pain and suffering generally exceeds the amount of pleasure in being alive.

Therefore, the net hedonic value of life, collectively, is negative. This conclusion is, I believe, a logical imperative of secular humanism with implications for family planning, abortion rights, end-of-life choice, euthanasia, capital punishment, vegetarianism, charitable giving, and other personal choices and public policies.

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