

A Sermon on the Absurd

Sermon by Rev. Minister Angela Smith of COPE for April 28th, 2024 (and beyond)

This is a meditative sermon in questionnaire format and suggestions aren't solutions, actions are solutions. If you've solved a problem theoretically, then enact the solution locally to test the theory and once proven share results so others may do the same if so inclined without forcing, coercing, nor manipulating anyone to join in your efforts.

QUESTIONS:

1. Global Gross Domestic Product Per Capita in 2023 is \$13,268 and if equally distributed to every human being on earth would be \$13,268 before any taxes, interest, or other overhead considerations. Source: https://statisticstimes.com/economy/projected-world-gdp-capita-ranking.php#google_vignette PETA says animals aren't ours to experiment on, eat, wear, use for entertainment or abuse in any other way. Source: <https://www.peta.org/> Human beings are animals too. PETA does believe in euthanasia and sterilization to reduce suffering by reducing/culling the overall population and believes nonhuman animals and human beings should have the same rights. In a growingly developed world, is death preferable to subjugation and would \$13,268 gross per year be enough for you to accept a life of subservience over imminent death?

2. If you had no support system as a result of being orphaned and/or no stable position from which to pursue lawful gainful employment due to no fault of your own and potentially as a result of being relocated multiple times through foster care, would you require any minimal socio-economic stable position before pursuing lawful gainful employment? Secondly, would joining a cult or being recruited by human traffickers promising a modicum or semblance of stability appeal to you where you have no other safety net?

3. If your situation was that described in question #2, would you find PETA's objection to utilitarianism supportive while remaining horrified that the offered solutions are death and sterilization (castration, spay/neuter) to expedite extinction where a life of interdependent service is too objectionable?

4. If you were disabled, natural law would deem you easy prey or recognize any inability to protect and defend yourself as evidence of pending demise. Others may protect and defend you out of love or charity, but are not required nor compelled to do so. The more vulnerable one is, often the more vicious one becomes. Source: <https://varmentguard.com/blog/wild-animals-dangerous> The more excluded from civil society, the more feral a person becomes regardless of extent of vulnerability. Would you prefer involuntary institutionalization to euthanasia if there was no other feasible option given no requirement that anyone love and support you nor any requirement that you love and support anyone else yourself?

5. There are an estimated 8 billion total people living on earth as of September, 2023. Source: <https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2023/11/world-population-estimated->

[eight-billion.html](#) 2,397,435,502 of that 8 billion are under the age of 18 or minors. Source: <https://data.unicef.org/how-many/how-many-children-under-18-are-in-the-world/> This leaves 5,602,564,498 people making up the global adult population. Only 3,400,000,000 people have jobs and that includes minors with work permits. Source: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1258612/global-employment-figures/> 4,600,000,000 people currently have no jobs and no income. If 20% of global minors make up part of the workforce (21.6% of children 5 and older have jobs in Africa, 5.6% of children have jobs in Asia, Source: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/264906/extent-of-child-labor-in-different-regions-of-the-world/> 55% of young people aged 16-24 are employed in the US source: <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/youth.pdf> and 20.3% of K-12 students in US are gainfully employed source: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/477668/percentage-of-youth-who-are-enrolled-in-school-and-working-in-the-us/#>), that's roughly 479,487,100 working minors and still results in 2,682,051,598 adults with no income and no gainful employment in global terms. That's 47.8% of the global adult population with no income and no job. How would you address this disparity and would it involve everyone taking a pay cut including you so that everyone can lawfully earn their fair share of global domestic product by participating in an economy that can support that many jobs at the current rate of \$13,268 gross pay per person?

6. Is the above too overwhelming and/or disturbing for you to contemplate?
7. Are you honestly inclined to side with PETA's solutions to any of the challenges discussed above?
8. Does being nice matter and do you treat others the way you wish to be treated?
9. Do you give to charities from which you'd seek help if in need of assistance?
10. Did you think any of the questions were absurd in terms of being problems you could even help solve?

For those interested in starting #TaoFu Self-Defense Exercises, please see <https://www.cope.church/taofu.htm> and begin at any time.

There are opportunities to send messages, receive mystery bonus blessings, and more with or without donating available now on our "Pass the Basket" page at <https://www.cope.church/basket.htm> . Thank You.

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32 KJV Willful blindness is an abomination.

COPE accepts Feedback, critical and complimentary. Learn more at <https://www.cope.church/feedback.htm> . For the sake of keeping myself and others humble, a sense of humor is welcome on all sides.