

On Compassion

What is *compassion*? I say it's looking toward someone less fortunate than yourself and feeling desirous to help them in whatever way they need most. Compassion, then, must first be *intrinsically motivated*, from one's heart, and second be *voluntarily displayed*, as a freely chosen course of action. When the action is preceded by a threat of violence, *it cannot be a compassionate act*. It follows, then, that forced charity, state welfare, and the like are neither founded on nor maintained by compassion. On the contrary, they are founded on *covetousness*, *envy*, and ultimately, *hatred*. And that's today's two cents.

Skyler.