

COMPARING PHILOSOPHIC ASSUMPTIONS

| | Absolute Monotheism | Rational Secularism | Romantic Secularism | Postmodern Secularism | Secularization |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|
| Nature of Truth | Only one Universal Truth | Only one Universal Truth | Wall splits private/public truths | Multiple Truths | One Universal Truth |
| Legitimate Knowledge Sources | Religion Only | Reason Only | Reason, Religion and Personal Experiences | Reason, Experiences and non-monotheistic religions | Reason, Religion and Personal Experiences |
| Moral Experts | Religious Clergy | Select Academics & Political Leaders | Electorate Judiciary Elected Officials | Judiciary | Electorate |
| Source of Authority | Divine Right to Rule Scriptures | Specific Theory of Human Nature | Social Contract | Human Rights | Social Contract |
| Highest Political Virtue | Faith/Belief Obedience | Evidence of Success Right=Might Might=Right | Freedom | Tolerance Diversity Equality | Seeking Universal Truth |
| Problems | No Human Rights | Requires revolution/ Coup/No Human Rights | Private/ Public line is crumbling | Excludes Monotheistic Believers | Slow Must overcome Scepticism |
| Resistance | Collaboration between Philosophers & Subjects | Religion and Human Rights advocates | Those who believe Equality is the highest political value | Monotheists | Rational Secularists |
| Examples | Louis XIV, France Taliban, Afghanistan | Soviet & Chinese Communism Nazi Fascism New Atheists | United States | Canada United Nations | United States? |