

SECULAR HOPE - GLOSSARY

Absolute Monotheism	The belief that there is one universal truth underpinning morality, that religion is the only legitimate means of understanding and seeking that truth, and that only one religion has identified the correct path to universal truth.
Monotruism	The belief that there is one universal truth regarding human nature that underpins morality.
Postmodern Secularism	A constitutional model that holds tolerance and diversity as the highest political values and therefore religious freedoms should not be protected if they assert a moral absolute. This model is based on the assumption that there is no objective moral truth, only irreconcilable multiple truths.
Rational Secularism	A constitutional model based on the assumption that religion and reason are irreconcilable and therefore religion must be culturally extinguished.
Romantic Secularism	A constitutional model that holds that the highest moral values are individual freedom and equality, and that the state needs to be neutral with regard to spiritual beliefs such that individuals are free to pursue, and vote according to, their own versions of universal moral truth.
Secular	A political system that is independent from religious control and may or may not protect religious freedoms.
Secularization	A political commitment to develop a universal moral code based on a rational understanding of human nature by allowing for a rational reconciliation of religious teachings with the full diversity of human experiences.
Tolerance	An individual suspending judgment toward other's beliefs or nonharmful behavior because there is no belief in an objective truth OR because one recognizes that there are significant aspects of human nature that are not yet rationally understood and therefore they cannot conclusively justify moral judgment.
Toleration	A state suspending judgment toward a citizen's beliefs that may be causing the individual or others spiritual harm but not any physical or economic harm.