

The Common Good, Sin, Conscience

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Moses and Hammurabi

The story of Moses reflects a time when ancient communities were establishing small city states necessitating the need for law and order as populations grew. Compare the 10 commandments to the ancient Babylonian code of Hammurabi using the activity sheet.

<http://www.history.com/topics/ancient-history/hammurabi>

Judaism

For the people of Israel, the decalogue or 10 commandments constitutes the main source of what is considered right and wrong. For Christians, it is the 10 commandments as well as the teachings of Jesus presented in the gospels. From this is determined what is right (moral) and what is wrong (immoral).

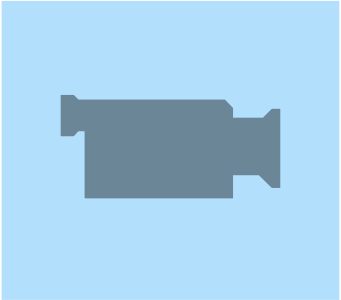
What is Sin?

What is immoral Christians often refer to as SIN. In a Catholic context there are four types of sin, copy the table below into your book, we will view an article about sin and describe each one.

This website will help

<https://christianity.stackexchange.com/questions/15037/in-catholicism-what-are-the-different-kinds-of-sins>

Original Sin	
Mortal Sin	
Venial Sin	
Which type of sin is individual in nature and which are collective (inherited)? Explain.	



Types of Sin: Answers

The major distinction is between venial and mortal sins: something very serious accompanies every mortal sin, so mortal sins are set apart.

Original sin relates to the fall of humanity from the grace of God as described in the Christian creation myth of Adam and Eve (Adam and Eve) - *Collective*

Sin is any act contrary to the eternal law. A sin is a willful act contrary to reason and the moral law inscribed into the conscience of every person - *Individual and collective*

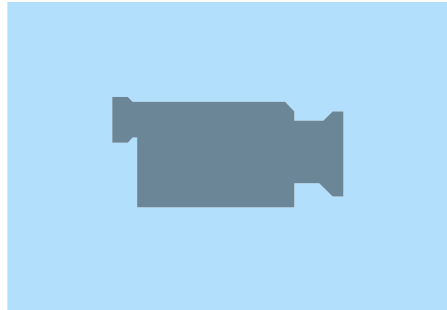
Grave matter relates to very serious actions which damage our relationship with God specified by the Ten Commandments. Grave sin or mortal sin is sin whose object is grave matter.

Venial sin is a sin whose object is not grave matter committed with full knowledge and consent. It lessens the love of God in our hearts and weakens our ability to resist mortal sin - *Individual and collective*

Mortal sin is sin whose object is grave matter (a serious sin), and is committed with full knowledge (on the part of the intellect) and deliberate consent (on the part of the will). - *Individual and collective*

Conscience

Conscience is the faculty that God has given us to avoid sin. It helps us discern Right from Wrong.



How would you define conscience?

When does your conscience speak to you?

Conscience:

Conscience is a judgment of reason whereby the human person recognises the moral quality of a concrete act that s\he is going to perform, is in the process of performing, or has already completed. In all s\he says and does, a person is obliged to follow faithfully what s\he knows to be just and right.
(Catechism of the Catholic Church, para. 1778)

Catholic Christians support the principle of the Common Good.

What does this term mean?

Our class definition of Common Good:
The principle of the Common Good means that we consistently treat each other with respect and in a manner in which we would like to be treated. When we do this, we are able to enjoy stronger relationships with each other and God.

**Common
Good**

Common Good and Moses

Three Essential Elements of the Common Good are:

- Respect for the person
- The social wellbeing and development of the group
- Ensuring Peace (the security and stability of society)

How did Moses exemplify these in his dealings with Egypt and the Hebrew slaves?

Common Good in today's context

Reflect on the school community and how these three elements are evident in some of the things we do.
What are some examples?

When we are not effective in demonstrating this value through our behaviour social sin can arise as a result.