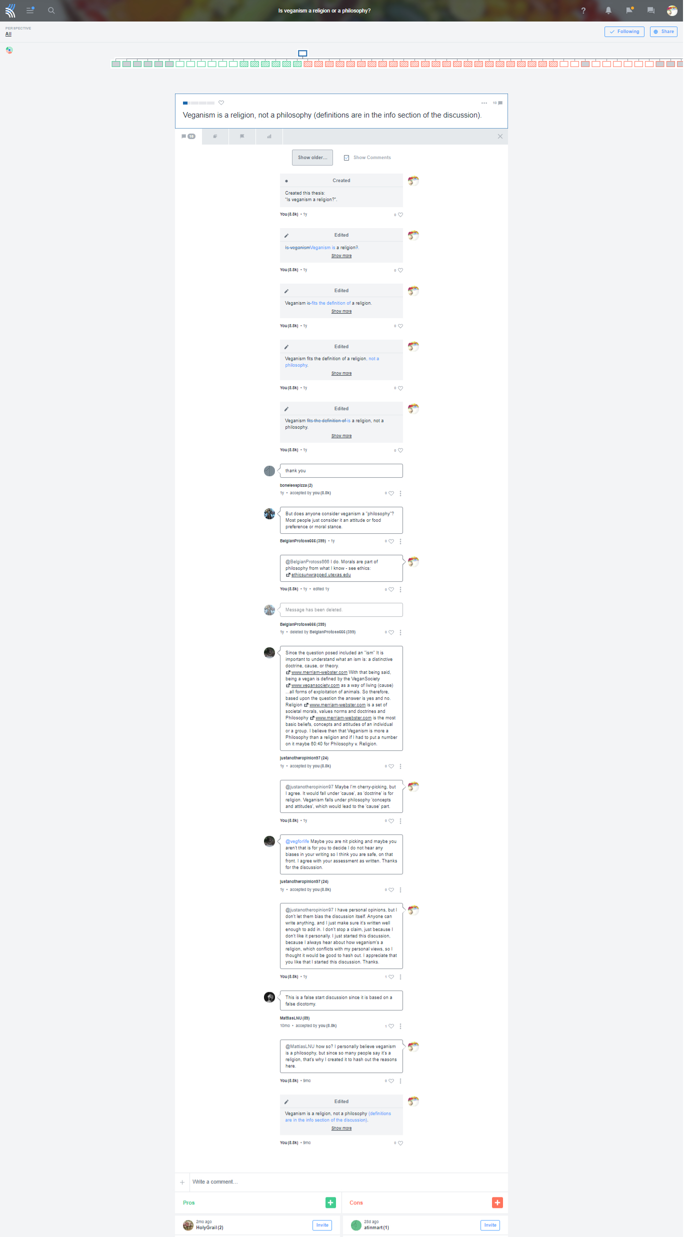

Is veganism a religion or a philosophy?

Veganism is a religion, not a philosophy (definitions are in the info section of the discussion).

Created

Created this thesis:
"Is veganism a religion?".

You (8.8k) • 1y 0

Edited

~~Is veganism~~Veganism is a religion~~?~~.

Show more

You (8.8k) • 1y 0

Edited

Veganism ~~is~~ fits the definition of a religion.

Show more

You (8.8k) • 1y 0

Edited

Veganism fits the definition of a religion, not a philosophy.

Show more

You (8.8k) • 1y 0

Edited

Veganism ~~fits the definition of~~ is a religion, not a philosophy.

Show more

You (8.8k) • 1y 0

thank you

bonelesspizza (2)
1y • accepted by you (8.8k) 0

But does anyone consider veganism a "philosophy"? Most people just consider it an attitude or food preference or moral stance.

BelgianProtoss666 (399) • 1y 0

@BelgianProtoss666 I do. Morals are part of philosophy from what I know - see ethics: ethicsunwrapped.utexas.edu

You (8.8k) • 1y • edited 1y 0

Message has been deleted.

BelgianProtoss666 (399)
1y • deleted by BelgianProtoss666 (399) 0

Since the question posed included an "ism" It is important to understand what an ism is: a distinctive doctrine, cause, or theory. www.merriam-webster.com With that being said, being a vegan is defined by the VeganSociety www.vegansociety.com as a way of living (cause) ...all forms of exploitation of animals. So therefore, based upon the question the answer is yes and no. Religion www.merriam-webster.com is a set of societal morals, values norms and doctrines and Philosophy www.merriam-webster.com is the most basic beliefs, concepts and attitudes of an individual or a group. I believe then that Veganism is more a Philosophy than a religion and if I had to put a number on it maybe 60:40 for Philosophy v. Religion.

justanotheropinion97 (24)
1y • accepted by you (8.8k) 0

@justanotheropinion97 Maybe I'm cherry-picking, but I agree. It would fall under 'cause', as 'doctrine' is for religion. Veganism falls under philosophy 'concepts and attitudes', which would lead to the 'cause' part.

You (8.8k) • 1y 0

@vegforlife Maybe you are nit picking and maybe you aren't that is for you to decide I do not hear any biases in your writing so I think you are safe, on that front. I agree with your assessment as written. Thanks for the discussion.

justanotheropinion97 (24)
1y • accepted by you (8.8k) 0

@justanotheropinion97 I have personal opinions, but I don't let them bias the discussion itself. Anyone can write anything, and I just make sure it's written well enough to add in. I don't stop a claim, just because I don't like it personally. I just started this discussion, because I always hear about how veganism's a religion, which conflicts with my personal views, so I thought it would be good to hash out. I appreciate that you like that I started this discussion. Thanks.

You (8.8k) • 1y 1

This is a false start discussion since it is based on a false dicotomy.

MattiasLNU (89)
10mo • accepted by you (8.8k) 1

@MattiasLNU how so? I personally believe veganism is a philosophy, but since so many people say it's a religion, that's why I created it to hash out the reasons here.

You (8.8k) • 9mo 0

Edited

Veganism is a religion, not a philosophy (definitions are in the info section of the discussion).

Show more

You (8.8k) • 9mo 0

SUGGESTED PRO 1

Veganism is rather a very great good guy's thus winners of it all, Veganism in our present and future and past is a very Almighty very Divine winwin-Ruling 'Expertise', just like straight edging makes simply moral/ok/Livingstandards/qualityTime/ProLife, it is peace allowing each to exist, the easy way or need be the eventual disciplining ways. Veganism is without a doubt part of the greater good and the purpose of all proactively pacifying/helping OK in the Universe, Much HOPE By (Hum.) religion

Accept | Reply

4mo ago
Secular_Squirrel (9) Invite

SUGGESTED PRO 2

Veganism is faith based as it ignores evidences to the contrary of its premise such as the reality behind animal deaths as the result of using combine harvesters for farming corn, wheat, and soy products. Traditional native american standards on acquiring meat for consumption is actually more humane than veganism that accepts food farmed through use of combine harvesters, and genetically speaking veganism is not healthy for everyone only some.

Accept | Reply

4mo ago
Secular_Squirrel (9) Invite

SUGGESTED PRO 3

Philosophy is concerned with what is wise, veganism is not. So called religious philosophy starts at a conclusion and works backwards to make such seem as if it can be reached logically, veganism uses this same method.

Accept | Reply

7mo ago
Synesthesia (1.5k) Invite

SUGGESTED PRO 1

A large proportion of vegans seem to have a zealous emotional attachment to this dietary lifestyle that is reminiscent of religiosity.

Accept | Reply

7mo ago
Bibiana (1) Invite

SUGGESTED PRO 1

I think veganism is a philosophy of life in tehe face of the natural

Accept | Reply

10mo ago
omniface (37) Invite

SUGGESTED PRO 6

Veganism is more of a religion than a philosophy, I researched many vegan people and not one of them didn't take their veganism not seriously

Accept | Reply

6

Veganism is a set of beliefs and practices and contains a moral code governing the conduct of humans.

12

Being convicted of foundational beliefs is a tenet of religions, and vegans are like that in regards to the morality of eating meat.

6

Vegetarian movements have been taken (combined with other ideas) to a religious level, as seen with Tolstoyism.

Many religions contain vegan elements to it, such as Jainism, Hinduism, Buddhism,Seventh-Day Adventists, etc.

7

Veganism is a deep subconscious manifestation of the idea that for something to be good it must be unpleasant. It is an extension of old fashioned moral puritanism dressed up, under the umbrella of environmentalism, to fit a modern 'post-religious' world (as a neo-religion) whilst pushing all the same old buttons.

Unclear
"some parts are not accurate."

3

Militant vegans border on making it a cult, which is associated with religions more than philosophies.

4

One can stretch healthy eating to be rituals. If we go by rituals being a form of a Religious practice, then veganism is a Religion.

3

Veganism is open to the description of being a religion inasmuch as many aspects of it are beliefs.

Duplicate claim
"THe first sentence of Veganism is a religion in... duplicates, but that one has more info, so that one would take precedence."

7

Veganism is a religion in that it is founded in a belief system accepted on faith (of morality), rather than logic. That veganism is ethical or better for the environment and animals does not always hold up to scientific scrutiny (and cannot, as it's subjective).

Veganism is a lifestyle of its ancient roots of seeking truth due to its seeking wholeness and philosophical origins.

2

Similarly to how religious people (by the archaic definition) experience a sacred feeling when engaging with their religious beliefs, e.g. in prayer or church, some vegans experience a sacred feeling towards the correct treatment of animals, e.g. in what they buy or sanctuaries.

Some countries are considering it to be one, such as the UK.

SUGGESTED CON 1

veganism should be seen a way of living.

Accept | Reply

2mo ago
London Sufi (4) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 3

Veganism, or any diet to that matter, becomes an ideology when various non-dietary related beliefs, practices and social values are associated with the diet as a from of justification or validation of the diet. It is possible for example for people of any and no political or religious persuasion to be vegan and to use that belief system to justify their veganism.

Accept | Reply

2mo ago
London Sufi (4) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 7

All religions are ideologies but not all ideologies are religions. Some vegans may have various religious and/or spiritual beliefs that help validate their dietary preference and practices in some way. Veganism as a dietary practice does not require any spiritual or religious beliefs to be practised effectively. It is possible to have one without the other.

Accept | Reply

2mo ago
London Sufi (4) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 3

Veganism is an Ideology built around a simple choice to not eat animal products or those derived from animals.There's no need to get all complex about a very reasonable dietary and health choice, regardless of the personal, social and global benefits it might have.

Accept | Reply

3mo ago
ageomank (7) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 6

Veganism is a diet suggesting vegetables and nothing rare.

Accept | Reply

4mo ago
willemvzyl (10) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 1

Religions generally include claims of the explicitly supernatural, veganism does not.

Accept | Reply

6mo ago
A-Weema-Weh (21) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 3

The definition provided says that religion requires "zeal". However, you can be a vegan without being zealous; being vegan doesn't require "eagerness or ardent interest" (though many vegans are very zealous)

Accept | Reply

7mo ago
Bibiana (1) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 1

Veganism wants to make peopel different.

Accept | Reply

7mo ago
Sscott1993 (8) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 3

A philosophy. Veganism is a way of living your life. Religion is more spiritual and relies more on places of worships and God's or religious texts.

Accept | Reply

7mo ago
antzcode (64) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 12

Religions are philosophies.

Accept | Reply

8mo ago
Anon77 (6) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 1

Veganism is not a religion, it's a choice.

Accept | Reply

9mo ago
aldersar000 (2) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 1

I would define a religion as worship to a higher power. With that being said, I would define veganism as a lifestyle or philosophy.

Accept | Reply

9mo ago
Ojas78 (2) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 1

veganism is not a religion

Accept | Reply

9mo ago
BoyantMan (2) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 1

You are suggesting there is a difference between the two, there is not. Religion is a lie you tell yourself to satisfy your questions and so is a philosophy. Both are creations of the mind.

Accept | Reply

9mo ago
Enclusion (2) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 2

Veganism, and larger vegetarianism, isn't a religion inherently. Some vegans take it to the level of religion but the concept of veganism isn't inherently religious.

Accept | Reply

10mo ago
MattiasLNU (89) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 1

The main thesis is both wrong and misleading since it is based on a false dicotomy. So, the thesis framed as a question would probably have the answer that is is, strictly speaking, neither religion nor philosophy.

Accept | Reply

10mo ago
tansut (1) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 4

If living a life on moral principles that are not derived from any religion but just from the idea that one does not want to harm other sentient beings needlessly is a religion, then you can say any atheist who acts on moral principles based on well-being, compassion and empathy also is religious, and that would be a pretty absurd statement.

Accept | Reply

10mo ago
Borys (2) Invite

SUGGESTED CON 7

Veganism is a kind of leftist ideology that says, "I'm better because I don't eat animals." Similar to "gender" or LGBT.

Accept | Reply

10mo ago
Rytsk (40) Invite

SUGGESTED CON ♡ 6

nether, a restaurant menu usually say Vegan DIET. It is a personal choice. It may be the part of religiose practise but not the way around. Similar veganism it is not enough to be a stand along philosophy, yet people may explain habits (bad or good) by attributing them to some kind of domain of knowledge

Accept | Reply

11mo ago
Ryker (116) Invite

SUGGESTED CON ♡ 16

This condition is an irrational food obsession with which the victim seeks justification for their nutrient deficient diet by trying to force their unhealthy eating regime on others through moral blackmail and terrorist tactics.

Accept | Reply

12mo ago
Eleuthan (2) Invite

SUGGESTED CON ♡ 3

Veganism is just not eating sentient beings. The reasons for doing so can be both religious and philosophical. It is not a contradiction

Accept | Reply

12mo ago
deactivated-kpswtudr (68) Invite

SUGGESTED CON ♡ 1

Neither. Veganism is an irrational obsession bordering on insanity.

Accept | Reply

12mo ago
Anthonyve (2) Invite

SUGGESTED CON ♡ 1

I posit that it's neither. The question confuses cause and effect, religion or philosophy being possible causes and choosing to be vegetarian the effect. As is health concerns a possible cause.

Accept | Reply

1y ago
Naim08 (3) Invite

SUGGESTED CON ♡ 3

Veganism is clearly not a religion. However, there are similarities in the dogmatic nature of veganism and religion.

Accept | Reply

14

Veganism aligns more being a practiced philosophy.

9

Most vegans use an attempt to justify their beliefs through evidence, while religion generally relies on gnosis (spiritual knowledge).

1

It is possible to be vegan without zeal or conscientious devotion.

6

Religions are exclusive, meaning that if a religion attempts to combine religions, it is classified as a new religion. Veganism is a non-exclusive philosophy that can be accepted and practised within a range of religions without causing a new religion to be formed.

1

Veganism is not religious, as it is simply a decision to not eat animal products.

1

Around 47% of surveyed vegans are not religious. The majority of vegans practise another religion (mainly Christianity) and that they thus could not be part of a 'Vegan' religion (as it would conflict).

9

The chosen definition of religion is informal. It doesn't reflect the formal one (definition 1), which is normally associated with religions.

People who say that veganism is a religion, often use it in a derogatory manner, connotating extremism of a belief, when it may not be the case.

Veganism is not recognized as an official religion yet.

3

Veganism doesn't belong in a religious category, as most religions make claims of being the inerrant word of a being that created the universe, and make unalterable moral and ethical claims supported only by metaphysical beliefs, which this doesn't fit into.

6

Veganism is a dietary plan, similar to being vegetarian and having a keto diet it for the most part is a guideline for people to not eat animals or animal products. Though movements like this have been taken to a religious level, there are vegans out there with a health code rather a moral code for the guidelines and are only following these guidelines because they believe it is a healthy lifestyle. Many religions have dietary guidelines just like in veganism though.

Unclear
"needs to be more concise"

Veganism is a practice that objectively yields better health, economic, environmental and social outcomes-- Adherence based on empirical data rather than faith makes veganism less of a religion and more of a philosophy.

There are different reasons to why people choose veganism, and not all are devotional. Some of them are utilitarian by nature, like wanting better health, avoiding allergens, or preventing environmental destruction.

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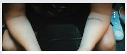

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