People, Thinking, Psychology, Believe, Giving, Brain, Self, Mind, Team,
Philosophy, Groups, Order, Social, Mean, Motivation, Diversity, Feelings,
Happiness, Jobs, Goal

The Righteous Mind: Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion.

~Jonathan Haidt

Morality binds people into groups. It gives us tribalism, it gives us genocide, war, and politics. But it also gives us heroism, altruism, and sainthood.

~Jonathan Haidt

Reciprocity is a deep instinct; it is the basic currency of social life.

~Jonathan Haidt

The most powerful force ever known on this planet is human cooperation - a force for construction and destruction.

~Jonathan Haidt

Empathy is an antidote to righteousness, although it's very difficult to empathize across a moral divide

~Jonathan Haidt

The human mind is a story processor, not a logic processor.

~Jonathan Haidt

Sacredness binds people together, and then blinds them to the arbitrariness of the practice.

~Jonathan Haidt

Human rationality depends critically on sophisticated emotionality. It is only because our emotional brain works so well that our reasoning can work at all.

~Jonathan Haidt

Diversity is not a virtue. Diversity is a good only to the extent that it advances other virtues, justice or inclusiveness of others who have

previously been excluded.

~Jonathan Haidt

Morality binds and blinds. It binds us into teams â€l but thereby makes us go blind to objective reality.

~Jonathan Haidt

We can tolerate great diversity in our aesthetic beliefs, but we can't tolerate much diversity in our moral beliefs.

~Jonathan Haidt

The very ritual practices that the New Atheists dismiss as costly, inefficient and irrational turn out to be a solution to one of the hardest problems humans face: cooperation without kinship

~Jonathan Haidt

What set us apart from most or all of the other hominid species was our ultrasociality, our ability to be highly cooperative, even with strangers, people who are not at all related to us.

~Jonathan Haidt

The initial organization of the brain does not depend that much on experience. Nature provides a first draft, which experience then revises.

~Jonathan Haidt

Liberals and conservatives are opponents in the most literal sense, each using the myth of pure evil to demonize the other side and unite there own.

~Jonathan Haidt

Scandal is great entertainment because it allows people to feel contempt, a moral emotion that gives feeling of moral superiority while asking nothing in return.

~Jonathan Haidt

Individuals who could not form cooperative alliances, on average, died sooner and left fewer children. And so we are the descendants of the successful cooperators.

~Jonathan Haidt

Our moral sense really evolved to bind groups together into teams that can cooperate in order to compete with other teams.

~Jonathan Haidt

Many species reciprocate, but only humans gossip, and much of what we gossip about is the vale of other people as partners for reciprocal relationships.

~Jonathan Haidt

Intuitions come first, strategic reasoning second.

~Jonathan Haidt

Trying to run Congress without human relationships is like trying to run a car without motor oil. Should we be surprised when the whole thing freezes up?

~Jonathan Haidt

Legalizing homosexuality is not the first step on a slippery slope to legalizing everything.

~Jonathan Haidt

If you grow up in a WEIRD society, you become so well educated in the ethic of autonomy that you can detect oppression and inequality even where the apparent victims see nothing wrong.

~Jonathan Haidt

Dividing into teams doesn't necessarily mean denigrating others.

Studies of groupishness have generally found that groups increase in-group love far more than they increase out-group hostility.

~Jonathan Haidt

You can't make a dog happy by forcibly wagging its tail. And you can't change people's minds by utterly refuting their arguments.

~Jonathan Haidt

[W]hen a group of people make something sacred, the members of the cult lose the ability to think clearly about it. Morality binds and blinds.

~Jonathan Haidt

Democrats talk about programs like Social Security or Medicare, but it's not clear to most voters what Democrats' core moral values are.

~Jonathan Haidt

Congress is full of good, decent, smart people who have devoted their lives to public service.

~Jonathan Haidt

Liberals have difficulty understanding the Tea Party because they think it is a bunch of selfish racists. But I think the Tea Party is driven in large part by concerns about fairness.

~Jonathan Haidt

Anyone who values truth should stop worshipping reason.

~Jonathan Haidt

It's a basic fact about being human that sometimes the self seems to just melt away.

~Jonathan Haidt

Morality binds and blinds.

The rider evolved to serve to the elephant.

~Jonathan Haidt

People are wrong when they say that everything should be more diverse, even, say, rock bands. It's an error, an overgeneralization.

~Jonathan Haidt

America is very much about individual happiness, the right to expression, self-determination. In America you do need to point to harm befalls victims before you can limit someone else's rights.

~Jonathan Haidt

If I believe that abortion is wrong, and I want to convince you that it's wrong, there's no reason I should recount to you my personal narrative of how I came to believe this.

~Jonathan Haidt

People who devote their lives to studying something often come to believe that the object of their fascination is the key to understanding everything.

~Jonathan Haidt

Happiness can only be found within, by breaking attachments to external things and cultivating an attitude of acceptance.

~Jonathan Haidt

The psychological origins of love are in attachment to parents and sexual partners. We do not attach to ourselves; we do not seek security and fulfillment in ourselves.

~Jonathan Haidt

Awe is the emotion of self-transcendence.

If you get something for nothing, part of you may be pleased, but part of you moves your hand to give something back.

~Jonathan Haidt

I got interested in the American culture war back in 2004, and it's one of the only growth stocks I've ever invested in.

~Jonathan Haidt

Liberals are my friends, my colleagues, my social world.

~Jonathan Haidt

Anytime we're interacting with someone, we're judging them, we're sharing expectations, we think they didn't live up to those expectations.

~Jonathan Haidt

Economic issues are just as much moral issues as social issues.

~Jonathan Haidt

Let me say it diplomatically: Most religions are tribal to some degree.

~Jonathan Haidt

Most of our social nature is like that of other primates - we're mostly out for ourselves.

~Jonathan Haidt

People are voting for the kind of country they want to live in, and there are different views about what kind of country we should have.

~Jonathan Haidt

I began graduate school in the late 1980s, and my goal was to understand how morality varied across cultures and nations. I did some research comparing moral judgment in India and the U.S.A.

By temperament and disposition and emotions, I'm a liberal; but in my beliefs about what's best for the country, I'm a centrist.

~Jonathan Haidt

Sports is to war as pornography is to sex. We get to exercise some ancient, ancient drives.

~Jonathan Haidt

science is a smorgasbord, and google will guide you to the study that's right for you.

~Jonathan Haidt

Love and work are to people what water and sunshine are to plants.

~Jonathan Haidt

If you think half of America votes badly because they are stupid or religious, you are trapped in a matrix ... Take the red pill, learn some moral psychology and step outside the moral matrix.

~Jonathan Haidt

Understanding the simple fact that morality differs around the world, and even within societies, is the first step toward understanding your righteous mind.

~Jonathan Haidt

The great conservative insight is that order is really hard to achieve. It's really precious, and it's really easy to lose.

~Jonathan Haidt

Groups create supernatural beings not to explain the universe but to order their societies.

~Jonathan Haidt

It only takes twenty generations of selective breeding to create large

differences or appearance and behavior in other mammals.

~Jonathan Haidt

If I have a mission in life, it is to convince people that everyone is morally motivated - everyone except for psychopaths.

~Jonathan Haidt

Religious experiences are real and common, whether or not God exists, and these experiences often make people whole and at peace.

~Jonathan Haidt

If you have high IQ, you're really good at finding post-hoc arguments to support your feelings of truthiness.

~Jonathan Haidt

I did say that in-group, authority and purity are necessary for the maintenance of order, but I would never give them a blanket endorsement.

~Jonathan Haidt

Human thinking depends on metaphor. We understand new and complex things in relation to the things we already know... once you pick a metaphor it will guide your thinking.

~Jonathan Haidt

If you think that moral reasoning is something we do to figure out the truth, you'll be constantly frustrated by how foolish, biased, and illogical people become when they disagree with you.

~Jonathan Haidt

The extreme self-sacrifice characteristic of group-selected species such as ants and bees can often be found among soldiers.

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