

Torbjorn Tannsjo

Quotes

*Thinking, People, May, Moral, Nihilism, Punishment, Democracy, Mean,
Different, Philosophy, Believe, Rights, Country, Answers, Needs, Order, Strong,
Ideas, Giving, Killing*

Utilitarianism condones killing of innocent human beings, even murder, if it makes the world a better place.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

It is obvious, I think, that national democracy withers. This has to do with globalisation.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

I am indeed a hedonistic utilitarian. I have defended hedonistic utilitarianism for quite a while.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

Are there any good arguments in defence of moral nihilism? I think not.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

It is of note that for a long time moral nihilism was a kind of unquestioned default position in analytic moral philosophy.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

According to deontology it is wrong to kill an innocent human being, period.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

If two norms conflict, if they are mutually inconsistent, then at least one of them must be false.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

I wanted to know what it means to know something, whether we can know at all, and, if so, how.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

I want to think that there are better ways of obviating murder than to resort to capital punishment, but I realise that this may be wishful thinking on my part.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

The best explanation why people agree is that they have converged on true answers.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

Even where people in different cultures agree they may all have gone wrong.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

When I was in my late teens I was already interested in philosophy.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

The possibility to go on indefinitely with our lives may become a reality and it will present us with a temptation.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

Global governance need not take a democratic form.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

I am a left winger, thought.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

I do believe that what I have called populist democracy is to be preferred to what I have called elitist democracy.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

We can be certain that, if there are conflicting views in different cultures, some of these views must be false. This may help us to transcend our own narrow cultural horizon.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

Moral nihilism comes with a price we can now see.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

We should not accept moral nihilism unless we find strong arguments to do so.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

I am now a decided non-naturalist realist. And today we may even speak of a trend towards non-naturalist moral realism.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

Different areas present us with possibilities to test different theories.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

I believe that one basic question, what we ought to do, period (the moral question), is a genuine one. There exists a true answer to it, which is independent of our thought and conceptualisation.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

It is obvious that humanity faces existential threats of a global nature. They are global in the sense that is not possible to deal with them unless we resort to global governance.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

There are some particular moral truths that I believe we have access to (such as the one not to inflict pain on a sentient being for no reason).

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

What we need is legislation, not negotiation, for the entire globe.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

To kill or not to kill, that was the question that haunted me.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

I am indeed a moral realist.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

The Chinese are generally speaking much more reluctant than Westerners to killing as a means to the rescue of lives.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

Actually, I defend the right to free abortion.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

One way of submitting your moral intuitions in relation to some issue to cognitive therapy is to learn more about how people in other cultures think about it.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

The democratic thought is based on that 'ordinary people' are suitable to rule themselves.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

The kind of values for which I was supposed to kill, such as democracy and national independence, were better served, I thought, through non-violent action.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

I was conscripted to military service, and my gut feeling was to refuse to serve. I did not want to kill other people. This seemed to me wrong, if not in principle, so at least in practice.

~Torbjorn Tannsjo

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