

### Real World Graduation: Question 27

Edward D. Duvall  
21 Apr 2018

#### Question 27

A group of artists has assembled samples of their work and have displayed them at public venues. Among the works is one that portrays child molestation as desirable, one that blatantly mocks Christians, one that ridicules the notion of hard work and sensible spending, and one that celebrates violence against women. All of them have high-scale production values. They are not cheap efforts designed only to get attention; they are serious artwork.

All of these works of art have themes that are contrary to traditional values, and in fact, turn out to be commercial failures. Why would artists knowingly and willingly spend their talents in this manner?

- a) They are trying to find the limits of what is protected by the First Amendment
- b) They are trying to illustrate the obsolescence of the traditional moral values by example.
- c) It is usually the truly visionary people who tend to become artists; it is their job to instruct society.
- d) They are using reverse psychology to educate people that what they depict in their art really should be rejected.
- e) Some combination of a), b), and c).

### Answer to Question 27

This is a trick question. All of the answers are wrong.

Answer a) is wrong because none of these are limited by the First Amendment; all have been done before without censorship.

Answer b) is wrong because everyone already knows that people have sometimes failed to maintain the virtues of the traditional morality. But these failures do not prove that the traditional values are wrong or obsolete, it only means that the people who did not observe them may be hypocrites.

Answer c) is wrong because the truly visionary people are usually doctors, physicists, agricultural researchers, chemists, and engineers; they have changed society for the better far more than all the artists.

Answer d) is wrong because the actual goal among modern artists is to promote their alternate morality of "anything goes with no guilt or hypocrisy". In other words, the new moral code many artists subscribe to is not based on any high standards of behavior; it is based on the concept that the lowest form of behavior is as good as any other. The purpose of the artwork is to convince you (the normal person), that you are a primitive moron. The goal of many modern artists is to convince you to wake up and free yourselves from the guilt and hypocrisy of the good manners that your parents taught you.

Modern artists typically despise religious people and morality in general. If it were possible, they would line up all the religious people and kill them, without guilt or hypocrisy. But of course, the artists claim that you (the normal person) are a hypocrite if you were to criticize them for desiring to do so. If you (the normal person) do criticize them for any reason, you will be ridiculed and accused of "hating".