

The excuse that saying, "Don't do it!" is enough to absolve a religion of being in any way to blame for violence

Pope John Paul II felt that if every religion denounced religious based warmongering and terrorism it would be a big help. Nobody really expects the problem to stop completely or for good. But what exactly is he saying?

Theories:

+ He is saying that religion has some kind of uncanny power to get obedience. That is why he considers it giving orders for peace is enough. This is not merely something giving an order and getting things done. Its about how religion is able to have an effect on people that its commands have more compelling power than anything else's.

+ He is trivialising the situation and must know fine well that a religion ordering peace is far from enough. Its an insulting pretence at an effort.

Now if religion has a semi-hypnotic influence then it is to blame for the violence for not using this power better. It is too potentially dangerous to co-exist happily with the state especially the secular state. And is hypnosis its secret – not credibility? That is no religion to follow!

If terrorism is either right or wrong and happens to be just wrong then is any religion allowing it to happen or even commanding it a valid religion regardless of how convinced and sincere its members are? If your answer is no then what? It would mean that if you cannot account for why God lets innocent babies suffer so horribly and makes viruses to torment them and if the reason is that God would be bad then it follows that your faith is not valid and neither is your religion. You cannot command religious respect. Faith in God if it happens to be right about God can still be bad as far as we are concerned. If King Herod is killing babies and says his reasons and why he has no choice will be revealed one day that still makes you bad for believing him EVEN if it is true. It is evil for you have to take things how they look for the risk of condoning even unwittingly the deaths of babies is too great. Its about the babies.