

**Gospel of  
Atheism**

PRINCIPLE 12, BE YOUR OWN PERSON

The Twelfth Principle of Self-love is that you must not worry about what others think but just do good so that what bad things they think become insignificant. This involves the abandonment of the concept of a nosey God.

To worry about what others think too much is trying to put the approval of others before yourself. You alone are the reason why you feel that way about their approval so you can change yourself to do without it. It is a sure indication of perverted self-esteem. It is the same if you worry about what God thinks. Since it is what you think about you that matters, cut all ties with all the gods that humanity has invented. If you be a blessing in the lives of others from day to day you will find that their disapproval won't scare you for there is so much good that makes any real or imagined wrong you are accused of fail to make you downcast. Why should it? It is only a drop of dirt in a well of pure water. To stop yourself being hurt by the disapproval of others you must do good works and be conscious that their opinion is not necessarily right and that they are degrading and ultimately embarrassing themselves by trying to manipulate you.

Find people who may accept you for what you are. They might be counsellors or whatever but remember that they are there for you and that will help you. You will develop self-esteem faster if you make friends but you must make sure that you will outgrow needing them – they are only to help you get you to stand on your own two feet by yourself. The proper relationship with them is when you don't need them but have them as reminders that you are an okay person so that you and they can enjoy being together.

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