

53. THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST TRAIN-CREW LEGISLATION

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1: Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide | CARE

Practically all of the arguments which have been advanced against train-crew legislation apply with equal or greater force to train-limit legislation. There are also strong arguments against train-limit legislation which do not apply to train-crew legislation.

With this development, the controversy surrounding this labor law is back. And with President Obama expressing his plans about labor law changes, Americans are again divided on the Right-to-Work issue. This is a law that allows an individual to work at any place of employment without having to be forced to join a union in order to stay employed. It also prohibits unions and employers to get into union security agreements and make workers pay dues and other forms of payment if they do not wish to. Taft-Harley was focused on weakening the power of labor unions in the workplace. And with the passing of RTW laws, mandatory initiation and membership fees are eradicated. However, there are arguments presented by both proponents and opponents that should be taken into consideration.

List of Pros of Right to Work 1. It gives employees the freedom to choose if they want to join a union or not. Supporters of this law assert that employees have the right to decide for themselves if they are to become union members or not. The Right-to-Work makes this possible. Saying that this law mandates employees not to join labor unions is misconstrued. Instead, it gives workers the free will to act on their own and in effect encouraging unions to work on enticing employees to sign up for membership. For proponents, this is better than forcing individuals to join against their will. This is a great way to ensure labor unions will negotiate better with employers on working conditions, higher wages and equality in the workplace and act in the best interest of members to keep the organization alive. It can lower school taxes which is good for the average American earner. Another benefit pointed out by proponents is again related to unions. They maintain that with the adoption of this law, there will be lesser teacher unions as is evident in the states that have already have RTW. Consequently, there will be lower school taxes. And since these taxes are taken from property taxes, home owners will have to pay lesser property taxes as opposed to homeowners living in states with no Right-to-Work laws. One thing RTW does is weaken the power of unions to dictate on employees and coerce them to join. In reality, unions are money-making businesses. They collect dues from members which can be too much. Moreover, as members, these employees cannot negotiate on their own nor can they let another labor union support them. This can lead to union monopoly. RTW guarantees this is not going to happen. With this law, employees have the right to voluntary be a member and quit if they are unhappy with how the union works. This way, unions will be more pro-employees and genuine with providing their services to members. Advocates for RTW say that some unions monopolize particular sectors in some unions, thus affecting certain industry sectors. Also, a big part of the collected dues from members are given to politicians for endorsements and in return they give their support to the unions and not necessarily the members benefiting from this. Lesser union members mean lesser dues collected. In the end, politicians will not have a reason to favor selected unions just so they can get election money.

List of Cons of Right to Work 1. RTW laws result to fewer union membership turnouts which can affect workers. Critics oppose Right-to-Work laws because of the effect on union memberships. They say that unions exist for the purpose of negotiating in behalf of the American workers who can be unlawfully terminated, forced to work with poor working conditions and agree to accept low wages to keep their employment. If union membership will be voluntary, there might not a union in most industries after all. Opponents argue that if this happens, employees will have no representation and negotiators. They will not be able to demand for better working conditions and higher salaries which can contribute to poverty in the community. The decline of union states resulted to inadequate or no health care coverage. With more and more employees choosing not to be members of unions, they will be on their own. Unions have been instrumental in pushing for better health care coverage for workers as well as higher pay and other benefits. The fact that states with Right-to-Work laws have workers with lesser wages is evidence that this is not beneficial to most of the working people of

53. THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST TRAIN-CREW LEGISLATION

pdf

America. Critics also are firm in saying unemployment rate is higher in states with RTW as well as higher percentage of fatal workplace accidents. It allows non-members to get benefits for free. Opponents of the RTW law are not happy with the fact that employees who are not paying dues enjoy the same benefits paying union members get. Unions will be the ones negotiating and working for higher salaries, better working conditions and expanded benefits. Conclusion The ongoing debate on the Right-to-Work legislation will always be present between supporters and critics. Although it gives employees the freedom to decide for themselves, labor activists and union workers are not happy about this. With the two sides having valid arguments, it would be difficult to discern which side of the fence is better.

53. THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST TRAIN-CREW LEGISLATION

pdf

2: Massachusetts Marijuana Legalization, Question 4 () - Ballotpedia

*The Arguments for and Against Train-Crew Legislation: Revision of Consecutive No; 53 (Classic Reprint) [Bureau of Railway Economics] on www.enganchecubano.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers.*

Bush, is widely regarded as a major bipartisan achievement, in the same rarefied category of near-universally admired legislation as the Civil Rights Act of 1964. In the presidential campaign, Barack Obama and John McCain both proclaimed their support for the continuing enforcement of the ADA, which gives civil-rights protections to people with disabilities and guarantees equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities in places of public accommodation and government services. Kentucky Republican Senate nominee Rand Paul came out against the ADA earlier this year on the grounds that requiring business owners to accommodate people with disabilities is an unfair burden to place on them. This view, much like the reservations Paul expressed about the Civil Rights Act, represents a fairly extreme form of libertarian conservatism that would be unlikely to appeal to moderate voters. But what if the ADA actually was bad for people with disabilities? Surely then no one would support it except trial lawyers hellbent on finding grist for lawsuits. Currently about 60 percent of Americans with disabilities are unemployed. So did the ADA do more harm than good? Not according to disability-rights leaders and experts, who consider it an enormous success. But while they are unanimous in their view that the ADA has opened up numerous possibilities for the disabled and has dramatically changed our culture for the better, they have different views on the employment question. People are able to stay in their homes [rather than being institutionalized] longer. We as a society expect more for people with disabilities. Disability is now a positive differentiator. And there is also unanimity in the disability-rights community that the costs to businesses cannot be shown to have suppressed employment among the disabled. Young also points out that because many people associate disability with an inability to work, the workforce-participation numbers may be a self-fulfilling prophecy. If I have a job I may not say that. Nonetheless, some experts are willing to concede that there may be a built-in disincentive to hire people with disabilities. Once someone has been hired and worked somewhere, though, it is easier for the person to gather evidence of mistreatment or wrongful termination. But if a firm hires me, I work there for five years and then they let me go, I have a lot more info for a wrongful-termination suit. Critics are correct that this is an inherent challenge in antidiscrimination law: Young says that, public-policy changes aside, there are people with disabilities who could be integrated into the workforce today if employers just take the positive first step. There are corporations that make a commitment, and it works.

53. THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST TRAIN-CREW LEGISLATION

pdf

3: Full text of "The arguments for and against train-crew legislation"

4. *The arguments for and against train-crew legislation revision of Consecutive number 4.*

Efficiency[edit] Drug laws are effective[edit] Supporters of prohibition claim that drug laws have a successful track record suppressing illicit drug use since they were introduced years ago. With illicit drug use peaking in the s in the United States, the "Just Say No" campaign, initiated under the patronage of Nancy Reagan, coincided with recent past month illicit drug use decreases from Sweden is an excellent example. Drug use is just a third of the European average while spending on drug control is three times the EU average. For three decades, [nb 1] Sweden has had consistent and coherent drug-control policies, regardless of which party is in power. There is a strong emphasis on prevention, drug laws have been progressively tightened, and extensive treatment and rehabilitation opportunities are available to users. The police take drug crime seriously. Governments and societies must keep their nerve and avoid being swayed by misguided notions of tolerance. They must not lose sight of the fact that illicit drugs are dangerous " that is why the world agreed to restrict them. After so many years of drug control experience, we now know that a coherent, long-term strategy can reduce drug supply, demand and trafficking. If this does not happen, it will be because some nations fail to take the drug issue sufficiently seriously and pursue inadequate policies. Many countries have the drug problem they deserve. Inefficiency[edit] Drug laws are ineffective[edit] One of the prominent early critics of prohibition in the United States was August Vollmer , founder of the School of Criminology at University of California, Irvine and former president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. In his book *The Police and Modern Society*, he stated his opinion that: Stringent laws, spectacular police drives, vigorous prosecution, and imprisonment of addicts and peddlers have proved not only useless and enormously expensive as means of correcting this evil, but they are also unjustifiably and unbelievably cruel in their application to the unfortunate drug victims. Repression has driven this vice underground and produced the narcotic smugglers and supply agents, who have grown wealthy out of this evil practice and who, by devious methods, have stimulated traffic in drugs. Finally, and not the least of the evils associated with repression, the helpless addict has been forced to resort to crime in order to get money for the drug which is absolutely indispensable for his comfortable existence. The first step in any plan to alleviate this dreadful affliction should be the establishment of Federal control and dispensation " at cost " of habit-forming drugs. With the profit motive gone, no effort would be made to encourage its use by private dispensers of narcotics, and the drug peddler would disappear. New addicts would be speedily discovered and through early treatment, some of these unfortunate victims might be saved from becoming hopelessly incurable. Drug addiction, like prostitution, and like liquor, is not a police problem; it never has been, and never can be solved by policemen. It is first and last a medical problem, and if there is a solution it will be discovered not by policemen, but by scientific and competently trained medical experts whose sole objective will be the reduction and possible eradication of this devastating appetite. There should be intelligent treatment of the incurables in outpatient clinics, hospitalization of those not too far gone to respond to therapeutic measures, and application of the prophylactic principles which medicine applies to all scourges of mankind. Consensus is growing within the drugs field and beyond that the prohibition on production, supply, and use of certain drugs has not only failed to deliver its intended goals but has been counterproductive. Evidence is mounting that this policy has not only exacerbated many public health problems, such as adulterated drugs and the spread of HIV and hepatitis B and C infection among injecting drug users, but has created a much larger set of secondary harms associated with the criminal market. These now include vast networks of organised crime, endemic violence related to the drug market, corruption of law enforcement and governments. The United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime has also acknowledged the many "unintended negative consequences" of drug enforcement. Danny Kushlik, head of external affairs at Transform, said the intervention of senior medical professionals was significant. The Hippocratic oath says: Physicians are duty bound to speak out if the outcomes show that prohibition causes

53. THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST TRAIN-CREW LEGISLATION

pdf

more harm than it reduces. Notwithstanding the vast public resources expended on the enforcement of penal statutes against users and distributors of controlled substances, contemporary drug policy appears to have failed, even on its own terms, in a number of notable respects. This conclusion becomes more readily apparent when one distinguishes the harms suffered by society and its members directly attributable to the pharmacological effects of drug use upon human behavior, from those harms resulting from policies attempting to eradicate drug use. It does so by permitting and indeed, causing the drug trade to remain a lucrative source of economic opportunity for street dealers, drug kingpins and all those willing to engage in the often violent, illicit, black market trade. Meanwhile, the effect of present policy serves to stigmatize and marginalize drug users, thereby inhibiting and undermining the efforts of many such individuals to remain or become productive, gainfully employed members of society. Furthermore, current policy has not only failed to provide adequate access to treatment for substance abuse, it has, in many ways, rendered the obtaining of such treatment, and of other medical services, more difficult and even dangerous to pursue. However, available systematic indicators show that the prevalence of drug use has increased since around 1970, that the decrease in drug incidence was particularly marked during the 1980s and that some indicators point towards an increase during the 1990s. They noted that unlike most of Europe, Sweden did not have widespread and lingering youth unemployment until the early 1990s financial crisis, suggesting that unattractive future prospects may contribute to the increase in drug use among the young. He said that Sweden are serving the role of being welfare alibi for, and lending legitimacy to the US drug war. In it was the third, as USA withdrew some of its funding. That presumption may be wrong. There is no correlation between the harshness of drug laws and the incidence of drug-taking: Embarrassed drug warriors blame this on alleged cultural differences, but even in fairly similar countries tough rules make little difference to the number of addicts: Gil Kerlikowske, Director of the US ONDCP argues, Controls and prohibitions help to keep prices higher, and higher prices help keep use rates relatively low, since drug use, especially among young people, is known to be sensitive to price. The relationship between pricing and rates of youth substance use is well-established with respect to alcohol and cigarette taxes. There is literature showing that increases in the price of cigarettes triggers declines in use. They argue that the Dutch idea of going soft on cannabis dealers, thereby creating a "separation of markets" from hard drug dealers has failed to stem the initiation to drugs such as heroin, cocaine, and amphetamines, saying that, in 2007, the Netherlands had the third highest cannabis and cocaine use in Europe. The BCS figures, published in October 2007, showed that the proportion of frequent users in the 16-24 age group is down. Use of marijuana is down among 8th- and 10th-graders, though it is flat among high school seniors, according to the annual Monitoring the Future survey of American teens. The study suggested that a causal role of cannabis use in later hard drug usage is minimal, if it exists at all, and that cannabis use and hard drug use share the same influencing factors such as genetics and environment. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention CDC, during 2007, there were 15, drug-induced deaths; only slightly less than the 18, alcohol-induced deaths. Marijuana is far more powerful than it used to be. In 2007, there were six times as many emergency room mentions of marijuana use as there were in 2002, despite the fact that the number of people using marijuana is roughly the same. In 2007, a record 1.2 million Americans entered substance abuse treatment primarily for marijuana dependence, second only to heroin and not by much. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, "Studies show that someone who smokes five joints per week may be taking in as many cancer-causing chemicals as someone who smokes a full pack of cigarettes every day. For example, smoking one marijuana cigarette deposits about four times more tar into the lungs than a filtered tobacco cigarette. The short-term effects are also harmful. And marijuana affects people of all ages: Harvard University researchers report that the risk of a heart attack is five times higher than usual in the hour after smoking marijuana. While ecstasy may have lower rates of immediate mortality than some other illicit drugs, there is a growing science on the already recognized considerable health harms of ecstasy. In Australia, which has had the highest opioid mortality per capita in the OECD, [1] studies found that "overdose fatality is not a simple function of heroin dose or purity. There is no evidence of toxicity from contaminants of street heroin in Australia. Where it is argued that all

53. THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST TRAIN-CREW LEGISLATION

pdf

disabilities are a burden on society it must be recognized that most disabilities are not the result of a choice, whereas the decision to recreationally use illicit drugs is most commonly free, and with the knowledge that they may lead to an abundance of addictions. There is evidence that MDMA ecstasy can treat or cure post-traumatic stress disorder and anxiety in cases of terminal illness. LSD has been widely researched as a therapeutic agent, and has shown effectiveness against alcoholism, frigidity and various other disorders. Researchers at Harvard-affiliated McLean Hospital found members of a religious group regularly using peyote scored significantly better on several measures of overall mental health than did subjects who did not use the hallucinogen. It is well recognised in developing countries, such as Kenya, that illicit alcohol production can result in the contamination with toxic by-products or adulterants that can kill or seriously affect the health of users. The same may be true of illicit drugs such as opiates, cocaine and amphetamine in developed societies. The illegality of injectable drugs leads to a scarcity of needles which causes an increase in HIV infections. The money spent on both increased health costs due to HIV infections and drug prohibition itself causes a drain upon society. Many patients were able to find employment, some even started a family after years of homelessness and delinquency. For example, it has been proposed that a drug with many of the same desired effects as alcohol could be created with fewer adverse health effects. An analysis of drug-induced deaths for the year period 1997-2000 found the vast majority attributable to accidental overdose, and suicide by drug taking, which together account for about 76 percent of all such deaths. It says that EU rules set out strict criteria for the acceptance of a drug for medical use: All active ingredients have to be identified and their chemistry determined. These tests have to be validated and reproduced if necessary in an official laboratory. Animal testing will include information on fertility, embryo toxicity, immuno-toxicity, mutagenic and carcinogenic potential. Risks to humans, especially pregnant women and lactating mothers, will be evaluated. Adequate safety and efficacy trials must be carried out. They must state the method of administration and report on the results from different groups, i. Adverse drug reactions ADR have to be stated and include any effects on driving or operating machinery. This is especially true of addictive, mind-altering drugs like marijuana. A marijuana withdrawal syndrome occurs, consisting of anxiety, depression, sleep and appetite disturbances, irritability, tremors, diaphoresis, nausea, muscle convulsions, and restlessness. Often, persons using marijuana erroneously believe that the drug is helping them combat these symptoms without realizing that actually marijuana is the cause of these effects. Therefore, when a patient anecdotally reports a drug to have medicinal value, this must be followed by objective scientific studies. There is a growing misconception that some illegal drugs can be taken safely. For example, savvy drug dealers have learned how to market drugs like Ecstasy to youth. Some in the Legalization Lobby even claim such drugs have medical value, despite the lack of conclusive scientific evidence. In natural plant drugs like opium, coca, cannabis, mescaline, and psilocybin, the medical history usually dates back thousands of years and through a variety of cultures. They could ease a variety of difficult-to-treat mental illnesses, such as chronic depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and alcohol dependency. The United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs requires that opiates be distributed only by medical prescription, but this is impractical in many areas. According to the Transnational Institute, June 2001. Ironically, the current drug control regulations hamper access to controlled opiate medications for therapeutic use. Many patients are unable to access morphine, methadone or an equivalent opioid. Global medical morphine consumption would rise five times if countries would make morphine available at the level of the calculated need, according to a recent WHO estimate. According to the New York Times, September 2001. But in all Sierra Leone there are only about doctors 1 for every 54, people, compared with one for every 1000 in the United States. The economic argument for drug legalization says: This argument is gaining favour, as national administrations seek new sources of revenue during the current economic crisis. This legalize and tax argument is un-ethical and uneconomical.

53. THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST TRAIN-CREW LEGISLATION

pdf

4: Selected special studies, - CORE

Railways and agriculture, -- The arguments for and against train-crew legislation -- List of publications pertaining to government ownership of railways.

Jan Brewer announced that she was vetoing SB , a bill that would have made it easier for business owners to turn away gay and lesbian customers, the religious right had already lost. Senators from Arizona urging her to veto it. State lawmakers who had supported the bill were begging Brewer to save Arizona from themselves. The swiftness and breadth of the backlash against the religious freedom laws in Kansas, Arizona and elsewhere, has bolstered a sense that the wind is at their back. Conservatives felt blindsided by that same response, and betrayed by what they felt was misleading coverage of what their proposals actually did. Though conservatives insisted that the religious freedom bills were maligned as the reincarnation of Jim Crow, they were written so broadly that they could easily have been construed as a license to discriminate. A majority of Americans now favor same-sex marriage, in every region of the country except for the South. But non-discrimination is not just a majority position. Had conservatives focused narrowly on the issue of services for same-sex weddings, they might have had an easier time. But only in Oregon was the language of their proposal that narrow. Conservatives used to be able to count on the influence of culture, if not the state, to enforce their views on homosexuality. What changed first is a chicken-and-the-egg kind of question. It was signed by President Bill Clinton, at a time when liberalism was in a fighting retreat and the Democratic Party was terrified of appearing hostile to people of faith. Religious conservatives also pushed for state versions of Religious Freedom Restoration Acts, passed in the years following the ruling. The backlash from corporate America should be seen as a barometer for just how drastically things have changed. Republican state legislators, heading into primaries and general elections, also have nothing to lose from supporting bills that excite their base but have little chance of passing. The religious freedom laws are a fragile bulwark against a cultural change that most likely cannot be reversed. They carve out an exception to the principle of non-discrimination by sexual orientation that does not apply to race or sex. The analogy is inexact: Jim Crow laws demanded complete separation of the races in order to preserve the myth of white supremacy. Whites and blacks could not play a game of pool together , let alone eat a meal, or even use the same toilet. Segregation cleaved America into two nations, separate and unequal. Religious freedom laws would allow homophobic business owners to choose be islands unto themselves, an tiny archipelago floating in the shadow of a coming tsunami. Yet, left up to the religious right, same-sex couples could be denied some of the most basic rights. They would not be able to marry, much less adopt children. They could be fired at will for their sexuality, and if not fired, denied benefits available to heterosexual employees. Those in the military would not be able to serve openly, if at all, and their families would not be properly compensated if they gave their lives. Society would view gays and lesbians the same way they view incest and bestiality , or as a psychological disorder to be cured. That may not be Jim Crow. But the fact that the religious right has failed to drive gays and lesbians to the margins of society as a despised minority is not a testament to their tolerance, it is a testament to their present weakness. If nothing else, that sort of hostility toward gays and lesbians is already ushering itself into extinction. While religious conservatives see the issue of allowing people to act according to their conscience, gay rights supporters see them as essentially demanding state sanction of gays and lesbians as a semi-pariah class against whom discrimination is less objectionable than it is against people on the basis of race, religion, or sex.

53. THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST TRAIN-CREW LEGISLATION

pdf

5: 7 Strongest Pros and Cons of Right To Work | ConnectUS

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Job losses from raising the minimum wage are negligible. Minimum wage has already been raised 23 times. Every time it was raised it was opposed by some few who said "it is going to lose jobs and wreck the economy" which is factually untrue as study after study has proven. The value of the minimum wage has fallen dramatically. Plus, in the s the minimum wage was essentially half the average wage. Saying we have a "free market" that will take care of workers is a myth. No corporations rely on the mythical "free market," why should workers? Corporations lobby like crazy all the time in Washington DC and before every state and local government for direct and indirect public assistance. All levels of government provide widespread corporate welfare so why not provide some help to low wage workers? Fifty billionaires received taxpayer funded farm subsidies in past 2 decades. Giving workers more money is small potatoes compared with what corporations and the rich are receiving all the time. In fact, one way to look at this is that low minimum wage laws are government subsidies to low wage businesses. What do working people do if they do not have enough to eat or get sick or need housing? They turn to government for public benefits. There is widespread religious support for living wages. Catholic support for living wages has been taught since In , US Catholic Bishops stated: Religious support for living wages has a long history and has been recently been reaffirmed by the Episcopal Church, the Jewish Council of Public Affairs, the Presbyterian Church, the Unitarian Universalist Association and the United Methodist Church. Worker productivity has gone up much faster than wages. Workers are already much more productive. It is a myth that the minimum wage is only for teens and entry level workers. There is widespread bipartisan support for raising the minimum wage. You know the minimum wage is too low when As President Franklin Roosevelt said in

53. THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST TRAIN-CREW LEGISLATION

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6: Selected Special Studies, | UVA Library | Virgo

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Europeans polled who "believe in a god", according to Eurobarometer in North Americans polled about religious identity Positions on the existence of God can be divided along numerous axes, producing a variety of orthogonal classifications. Theism and atheism are positions of belief or lack of it , while gnosticism and agnosticism are positions of knowledge or the lack of it. Apatheism concerns belief regarding the practical importance of whether God exists. For the purposes of discussion, Richard Dawkins described seven "milestones" on his spectrum of theistic probability: In the words of C. Very low probability, but short of zero. Classical theists do not believe that God can be completely defined. They believe it would contradict the transcendent nature of God for mere humans to define him. Robert Barron explains by analogy that it seems impossible for a two-dimensional object to conceive of three-dimensional humans. In monotheistic religions outside the Abrahamic traditions , the existence of God is discussed in similar terms. In these traditions, God is also identified as the author either directly or by inspiration of certain texts, or that certain texts describe specific historical events caused by the God in question or communications from God whether in direct speech or via dreams or omens. Some traditions also believe that God is the entity which is currently answering prayers for intervention or information or opinions. Ibn Rushd a 12th-century Islamic scholar Many Islamic scholars have used philosophical and rational arguments to prove the existence of God. The Sun and the Moon are not just random objects floating in the Milky Way , rather they serve us day and night, and the way nature works and how life is formed, humankind benefits from it. Rushd essentially comes to a conclusion that there has to be a higher being who has made everything perfectly to serve the needs of human beings. Maimonides offered proofs for the existence of God, but he did not begin with defining God first, like many others do. Rather, he used the description of the earth and the universe to prove the existence of God. He talked about the Heavenly bodies and how they are committed to eternal motion. Maimonides argued that because every physical object is finite, it can only contain a finite amount of power. If everything in the universe, which includes all the planets and the stars, is finite, then there has to be an infinite power to push forth the motion of everything in the universe. Narrowing down to an infinite being, the only thing that can explain the motion is an infinite being meaning God which is neither a body nor a force in the body. Maimonides believed that this argument gives us a ground to believe that God is, not an idea of what God is. He believed that God cannot be understood or be compared. In this view, the natural sciences are essentially studying the nature of God. This definition of God creates the philosophical problem that a universe with God and one without God are the same, other than the words used to describe it. Deism and panentheism assert that there is a God distinct from, or which extends beyond either in time or in space or in some other way the universe. These positions deny that God intervenes in the operation of the universe, including communicating with humans personally. The notion that God never intervenes or communicates with the universe, or may have evolved into the universe, makes it difficult, if not by definition impossible, to distinguish between a universe with God and one without. Debate about how theism should be argued[edit] In Christian faith, theologians and philosophers make a distinction between: The preambles include alleged truths contained in revelation which are nevertheless demonstrable by reason, e. The articles of faith, on the other hand, contain truths that cannot be proven or reached by reason alone and presuppose the truths of the preambles, e. The argument that the existence of God can be known to all, even prior to exposure to any divine revelation, predates Christianity. Thomas [13] and others, but that had also been explored by the Greek philosophers. Another apologetical school of thought, including Dutch and American Reformed thinkers such as Abraham Kuyper , Benjamin Warfield , Herman Dooyeweerd , emerged in the late s. This school was instituted by Cornelius Van Til , and came to be popularly called presuppositional apologetics though Van Til himself felt "transcendental" would be a more

53. THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST TRAIN-CREW LEGISLATION

pdf

accurate title. The main distinction between this approach and the more classical evidentialist approach is that the presuppositionalist denies any common ground between the believer and the non-believer, except that which the non-believer denies, namely, the assumption of the truth of the theistic worldview. In other words, presuppositionalists do not believe that the existence of God can be proven by appeal to raw, uninterpreted, or "brute" facts, which have the same theoretical meaning to people with fundamentally different worldviews, because they deny that such a condition is even possible. They claim that the only possible proof for the existence of God is that the very same belief is the necessary condition to the intelligibility of all other human experience and action. In practice this school utilizes what have come to be known as transcendental arguments. Alvin Plantinga presents an argument for the existence of God using modal logic. The word God has a meaning in human culture and history that does not correspond to the beings whose existence is supported by such arguments, assuming they are valid. The real question is not whether a "most perfect being" or an "uncaused first cause" exist. The real question is whether Jehovah, Zeus, Ra, Krishna, or any gods of any religion exist, and if so, which gods? Most of these arguments do not resolve the issue of which of these figures is more likely to exist. These arguments fail to make the distinction between immanent gods and a Transcendent God. If God could rationally be proven, his existence would be unimportant to humans. Raymond argues that believers should not attempt to prove the existence of God. Since he believes all such proofs are fundamentally unsound, believers should not place their confidence in them, much less resort to them in discussions with non-believers; rather, they should accept the content of revelation by faith. The Christian theist therefore must simply choose to start with Christianity rather than anything else, by a "leap of faith". This position is also sometimes called presuppositional apologetics, but should not be confused with the Van Tillian variety. Atheism The atheistic conclusion is that the arguments and evidence both indicate there is insufficient reason to believe that any gods exist, and that personal subjective religious experiences say something about the human experience rather than the nature of reality itself; therefore, one has no reason to believe that a god exists. Negative and positive atheism Positive atheism also called "strong atheism" and "hard atheism" is a form of atheism that asserts that no deities exist. Metaphysical naturalism is a common worldview associated with strong atheism. Negative atheism[edit] Negative atheism also called "weak atheism" and "soft atheism" is any type of atheism other than positive, wherein a person does not believe in the existence of any deities, but does not explicitly assert there to be none. Agnosticism Agnosticism is the view that the truth value of certain claims—especially claims about the existence of any deity, but also other religious and metaphysical claims—is unknown or unknowable. Weak agnosticism Weak agnosticism is the belief that the existence or nonexistence of deities is unknown but not necessarily unknowable. Agnostic theism Agnostic theism is the philosophical view that encompasses both theism and agnosticism. An agnostic theist believes in the existence of a god or God, but regards the basis of this proposition as unknown or inherently unknowable. Agnostic theists may also insist on ignorance regarding the properties of the gods they believe in. Agnostic atheism Agnostic atheism is a philosophical position that encompasses both atheism and agnosticism. Agnostic atheists are atheistic because they do not hold a belief in the existence of any deity and agnostic because they claim that the existence of a deity is either unknowable in principle or currently unknown in fact. The theologian Robert Flint explains: If a man have failed to find any good reason for believing that there is a God, it is perfectly natural and rational that he should not believe that there is a God; and if so, he is an atheist, although he assume no superhuman knowledge, but merely the ordinary human power of judging of evidence. If he go farther, and, after an investigation into the nature and reach of human knowledge, ending in the conclusion that the existence of God is incapable of proof, cease to believe in it on the ground that he cannot know it to be true, he is an agnostic and also an atheist, an agnostic-atheist—an atheist because an agnostic. Apatheism An apatheist is someone who is not interested in accepting or denying any claims that gods exist or do not exist. An apatheist lives as if there are no gods and explains natural phenomena without reference to any deities. The existence of gods is not rejected, but may be designated unnecessary or useless; gods neither provide purpose to life, nor influence everyday life, according to this

53. THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST TRAIN-CREW LEGISLATION

pdf

view. Ignosticism or igtheism is the theological position that every other theological position including agnosticism and atheism assumes too much about the concept of God and many other theological concepts. It can be defined as encompassing two related views about the existence of God. The view that a coherent definition of God must be presented before the question of the existence of God can be meaningfully discussed. Furthermore, if that definition is unfalsifiable, the ignostic takes the theological noncognitivist position that the question of the existence of God per that definition is meaningless. Some philosophers have seen ignosticism as a variation of agnosticism or atheism, [24] while others[who? The term "ignosticism" was coined in the s by Sherwin Wine, a rabbi and a founding figure of Humanistic Judaism. The term "igtheism" was coined by the secular humanist Paul Kurtz in his book *The New Skepticism*. Supernatural beings may be able to conceal and reveal themselves for their own purposes, as for example in the tale of Baucis and Philemon. In addition, according to concepts of God, God is not part of the natural order, but the ultimate creator of nature and of the scientific laws. The non-overlapping magisteria view proposed by Stephen Jay Gould also holds that the existence or otherwise of God is irrelevant to and beyond the domain of science. Logical positivists such as Rudolf Carnap and A. Ayer viewed any talk of gods as literal nonsense. For the logical positivists and adherents of similar schools of thought, statements about religious or other transcendent experiences can not have a truth value, and are deemed to be without meaning, because such statements do not have any clear verification criteria. As the Christian biologist Scott C. Todd put it "Even if all the data pointed to an intelligent designer, such a hypothesis is excluded from science because it is not naturalistic. Nature of relevant proofs and arguments[edit] John Polkinghorne suggests that the nearest analogy to the existence of God in physics is the ideas of quantum mechanics which are seemingly paradoxical but make sense of a great deal of disparate data. Unwin, is to treat particular versions of theism and naturalism as though they were two hypotheses in the Bayesian sense, to list certain data or alleged data, about the world, and to suggest that the likelihoods of these data are significantly higher under one hypothesis than the other. In almost all cases it is not seriously suggested by proponents of the arguments that they are irrefutable, merely that they make one worldview seem significantly more likely than the other. However, since an assessment of the weight of evidence depends on the prior probability that is assigned to each worldview, arguments that a theist finds convincing may seem thin to an atheist and vice versa. For instance, Charles Taylor contends that the real is whatever will not go away. If we cannot reduce talk about God to anything else, or replace it, or prove it false, then perhaps God is as real as anything else. From this Berkeley argued that the universe is based upon observation and is non-objective. However, he noted that the universe includes "ideas" not perceptible to humankind, and that there must, therefore, exist an omniscient superobserver, which perceives such things. Berkeley considered this proof of the existence of the Christian god. Lewis, in *Mere Christianity* and elsewhere, raised the argument from desire. He posed that all natural desires have a natural object. One thirsts, and there exists water to quench this thirst; One hungers, and there exists food to satisfy this hunger. He then argued that the human desire for perfect justice, perfect peace, perfect happiness, and other intangibles strongly implies the existence of such things, though they seem unobtainable on earth. He further posed that the unquenchable desires of this life strongly imply that we are intended for a different life, necessarily governed by a God who can provide the desired intangibles.

53. THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST TRAIN-CREW LEGISLATION

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By letter previously acknowledged you requested an opinion of this office on the following questions: Does a "turnaround" train as explained below constitute two trains within the meaning of RCW If the answer to question No. We answer question one in the affirmative and question two in the negative. In your letter you set out the following facts which caused you to submit the instant inquiry: Such round trip is completed within a 16 hour period. Meanwhile the Milwaukee performs the same type of service in the opposite direction starting at Aberdeen. On another occasion the same railroad operated a train containing fourteen loaded freight cars and eleven empty cars between Balch and Maytown, also with less than a full crew. Each of said trains operated over said common track. Provided, That nothing in this act shall be construed as applying. While our supreme court has never interpreted these full crew statutes, our office has issued numerous opinions interpreting them. This office has never, however, been previously faced with the aforementioned two questions. This construction of full crew laws is in accord with the view taken by the courts of other states. Nevada Northern Railway Co. Nevertheless, under any rule of statutory construction, whether strict or liberal, the legislative intention, when clearly apparent, must prevail. Public Hospital District v. Although we have been unable to find any case exactly in point on the first question, an analogous situation has been ruled upon by the Oregon supreme court. In reaching its decision the Oregon court pointed out the purpose of the full crew law statute Ore. In determining the proper construction, which will carry out that intent, many questions must be taken into consideration, chief among which is: What mischief did the legislature intend to remedy? The evidence in this case shows that to be the chief function of the extra flagman. If, as in the instant case, there is only one train a day operating on the line in any direction at any given time, the employment of an additional flagman to protect against a rear-end collision is a wholly useless measure of precaution. It is evident that our legislature, in excepting from the provisions of the full train crew act a line or part of line where not more than two trains are run within twenty-four hours, deemed that in such situations the hazards and dangers which the law sought to protect against, and especially the dangers of rear-end collisions, would not be of such magnitude to require the presence of a third brakemen additional flagman on trains of twenty-five or more cars. A so-called "turnaround" train is actually two train movements, one going each way. If there are two such "turnaround" trains within twenty-four hours, the hazards and dangers, and especially the dangers of rear-end collisions, which the legislature sought to protect against, would be present. While the statute is penal in nature, and is to be strictly construed, we are not authorized so to interpret it as to defeat the obvious purpose of the Legislature. We have also been unable to find any case exactly in point on the second question, namely, whether each of the two railroads involved may run not more than two trains. The Oregon supreme court in its opinion pointed out that what the legislature had in mind was the nature of the line and not the ownership, stating Ore. Our statute makes it unlawful for a railway company to either operate over its road or suffer or permit to be run over its road such trains without a full crew. A railroad company operating over its line without a full crew, whether it uses that line by contract, lease or other arrangement, is as guilty as the company suffering or permitting such violation of the law. In summary, we conclude that if the railroad companies are each operating a "turnaround" train, that is, four trains over a common track within the statutory twenty-four hour period without a full crew of six men on trains of twenty-five or more cars, as required by the statute, they are acting unlawfully. We trust the foregoing will be of assistance to you.

53. THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST TRAIN-CREW LEGISLATION

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8: Formats and Editions of The arguments for and against train-crew legislation. [www.enganchecubano.co

Top Ten Arguments for Raising the Minimum Wage It is a myth that the minimum wage is only for teens and entry level workers. Raising the minimum wage to \$10 would impact over 15 million workers.

The proposed law would make possessing, using, and giving away 1 ounce or less of recreational marijuana legal for adults 21 and older as of Dec. Advocates say it would quickly begin to phase out the black market: But Lewis, 47, said legalization may boost the accessibility of marijuana for youth and increase the perception among kids that pot is safe to use. And he indicated that some worries about the Massachusetts criminal justice system are unfounded. He said criminal penalties for marijuana possession of an ounce or less have already been replaced with a system of civil penalties. But it did raise numerous concerns about how it would play out in Massachusetts, and suggested ways for the Legislature to temper the question, should it become law. He cited data from a federally funded study. It shows a national drop in the percentage of 12th-graders who think people greatly risk harming themselves physically or in other ways if they smoke marijuana regularly: Lewis said that before legalization, there must be a strong and sustained statewide public education campaign that lets young people know marijuana is not safe for them to use. There is no marijuana equivalent to the legal prohibition of driving with a blood alcohol level of 0. That should change before legalization, to ensure police have the tools to keep the public safe, Lewis posited. Third, after years of troubled state oversight, Massachusetts has, more or less, just finished implementing a referendum that legalized marijuana for medical use. The first medical marijuana dispensary opened in June. And while there are six medical dispensaries open now, some have run into supply problems. Fourth, before legalization, the state should gather detailed baseline data on marijuana use so that changes after legalization could be accurately measured, Lewis said. And fifth, he said, Massachusetts should wait for federal law to be eased. Marijuana remains prohibited under federal statute, creating a raft of complications for the legal marijuana industry in places like Colorado. The measure would impose a 3. One of the ideas behind the measure backed by the Campaign to Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol in Massachusetts is to create a framework for a regulated and taxed industry to safely blossom. Lewis, who is married and has and year-old daughters, said being a father plays into his views: Baker, a Republican, said in a prepared statement that he is grateful to Lewis and his colleagues for their work on the issue. Subscribe to his weekday e-mail update on politics at bostonglobe.com.

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There is no way by which any law legalising assisted suicide or euthanasia can be made safe from abuse or negligence, resulting in the death of innocent www.enganchecubano.com therefore take active steps to support truly compassionate approaches to care at the end of life being articulated in our parliaments and assemblies.

53. THE ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST TRAIN-CREW LEGISLATION

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