

## Effects of Sin: Corrosive Cultures

Although many claim that their personal sin of choice is harmless, especially if it's legal or has no obvious victims, nothing could be further from the truth. We have the Word of God foremost to tell us that 'the wages of sin is death...'. But since we disbelieve this, let's examine just some of the consequences of sin. We've already discussed how the abandonment of virtue translates into an altered genetic code that will urge and compel future generations into virtual slavery to their passions. A lot of sins, like murder or theft, we can even see the harm that is suffered, either by the actor or an innocent victim.

But what about sins like adultery, or fornication, or homosexuality? I mean we see how this will effect future generations but what if the participants decline to reproduce? Then, they erason, their sin really is harmless.

But thats not what God said. He said sin leads to death. Even if your sin is 'under control'; or victimless, it would have to involve at least one other person for the above mentioned sins. So your influencing another to sin. Let's suppose that by your example you influence a third or even a fourth to similiarly sin. Can we not see how the effects of sin can quickly and seriously multiply and spiral out of control?

Pretty soon we have either a Culture or a subculture that is inducive to sinning. For example, the money chasing cutthroat, killer, whoremongering 'Hip-Hop Culture'. Can we not see how it influences young minds to follow in a similiar path that leads to destruction? Or the satanic death metal scene, the dope scene, or any other pervasive subculture that encourages and fosters an environement in pursuit of Vice.

Even now, in mainstream America, we have a culture that values individualism and ambition and the pursuit of wealth above love of God and neighbor. Can we seriously argue that such a culture has no influence on young minds growing up in it? It's impossible to argure against the environmental effcest of peer pressure.

Whose responsible? Is a culrure not the cumulative total of the combined effects of a societies actions, beliefs and values? We are all responsible to some extent or another, as much as we contribute to the advancement of the Culture.

No sin is harmless, you see. This culture is exactly what the Bible speaks of as warring against the 'Spirit of the Air'. It's the general mood, the atmosphere' we live in. We've all heard the phrase 'tension so thick you could feel it in ghe air'. Such attitudes, whether fear, lust, greed, or anger, or any other vice are experienced communally. We are social

creatures.

So what to do? We see the harmfulness emanating from this pop American Hollywood culture. We see how it discourages the pursuit of virtue and encourages the pursuit of vice. How can we combat this?

This is why a community of believers is so important. Even Jesus said 'When two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them'. Contrary to the 'Spirit of the Air', now in that atmosphere of believers you would have the Spirit of Christ. An environment encouraged the attainment of virtue. An environment that valued the resistance of sin, that's the solution.

We must create viable Cultures and subcultures that foster the development of Virtue. The most beneficial method for the advancement of the Kingdom of God would be to seize control of the dominant culture. But until and unless that is possible, we at the very least must create and maintain small pockets of resistance, mini sub-cultures in which to maintain and nurture the Body of Christ. Otherwise we will eventually succumb and fall prey ourselves to 'peer pressure' and the dominating prevalent corruptive culture of the day. If not we, then are children and neighbors will, and we will have failed in our mission to secure and advance the Kingdom of God on Earth until His return...