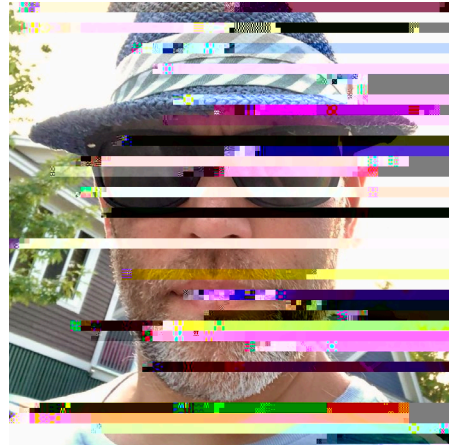


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The most important argument against divine command theory is the Euthyphro dilemma: if God's commands merely reflect what is otherwise morally required, then they are superfluous to morality; if, on the other hand, they determine the good, then morality is arbitrary, for were God to command it, we would be required to abandon all of our moral judgements. Either way, we have no reason to accept divine edict as binding. In this talk I argue that while the *divine* command theorist has an effective response to this dilemma, the *earthly* command theorist has none. Therefore, there can be no general justification for state authority: it is either superfluous or arbitrary, so non-binding. I conclude that this is a conceptual point that impacts any attempt to justify the state's use of coercive force. Accordingly, we all have compelling reason to be anarchists.

