

Further, the public should be enlightened as to the value and relevance of Secular Humanism.

Democratic Secular Humanism has made profound contributions to human welfare, and should be extended, not diminished, in its influence. It places its trust, not in divine guidance, but in human intelligence. A better, more humane world is possible, but only if obscurantism, irrationalism, intolerance, and sectarianism are rejected, and the ideals of secularism adopted.

3. An analytical summary of the document in capsule form

Secular Humanism asserts the right of human beings to be autonomous, to be free from any religious or moral restraints; and it opposes all absolute claims in either the realm of epistemology or the realm of ethics. It elevates human reason and science to the status of final arbiters of all questions, and rejects all supernatural truth-claims and all attempts to gain credence for or to inculcate such claims. It seeks to have all religious influences removed from the public sphere (especially from public education), so that free and unrestrained expression of all viewpoints in art and literature may be encouraged; unrestrained behavior in sexual conduct, marriage, divorce, birth control, and abortion may be practiced; and unrestrained exposition of naturalistic evolutionism may be disseminated.