

Review of: "History as an Ethical Craft — A Study of Ethical Reasons in the Explanation of Historical Acts"

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This paper depicts a detailed analysis to explain the ethical reasons of different historically sensitive and significant events (Columbus' invasion, slave traders, and Munich 1938) through a systematic textual analysis of elected history textbooks. I greatly appreciate how the author makes an attempt to analyze these ethical values and norms: heroism versus villainhood, humanity versus inhumanity, and loyalty versus betrayal in the context of three significant historical events. He starts with the event of Columbus' invasion on Red Indian lands and communities to recognize the value of heroism versus villainhood by analyzing the motive of the individual actor (Columbus) following different elected historical textbooks. Similarly, he analyses the value of humanity versus inhumanity as an institutional act following the sensitive historical event of slave traders and finally, the value of loyalty versus betrayal as an act of political leaders following the historically important event of Munich 1938. In addition to the author's analysis, I also believe the possibility of considering multiple contextual factors, relative value choices, and the relevance to consider the importance of humanity-associated emotional choices along with rational choices are crucial before judging any actor's motivation behind such sensitive historical acts. Yet, I agree value analysis of historical events to understand the motive of the actors behind any ethically sensitive event has immense importance in order to guide to analyze the contemporary sensitive events of the modern world. And this article provides a valuable contribution in this context.