

RE Why do humanists say that happiness is the goal of life?

Key Vocabulary

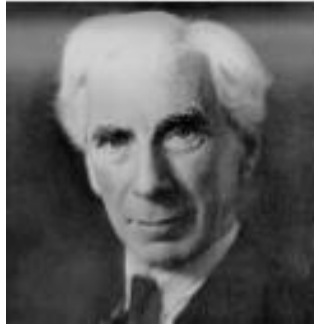
agnostic	A person who believes that nothing is known or can be known of the existence or nature of God.
atheist	A person who doesn't believe any gods exist.
humanist	People who try to live good lives without religious or superstitious beliefs. They reject the idea of any supernatural agency e.g. God or angels; in practice this means they may also describe themselves as 'atheist' or 'agnostic'.
humanism	A particular non-religious worldview
secularist	Someone who believes that the state should be entirely separate from religion.

Bertrand Russell

1872- 1970

Philosopher and humanist

"If there were in the world today any large number of people who desired their own happiness more than they desired the unhappiness of others, we could have paradise in a few years."



The Happy Human sign

It is an image of a human being but at the same time an 'H' for both 'human' and 'humanist'. The raised arms signify the idea of celebrating the one life that humanists believe we all have, and about the excitement of taking on new challenges and finding answers to difficult problems.



Key Facts

The British Humanist Association (BHA) actively campaign to encourage others to identify as humanists and to end involvement of religious faith communities in public life

Humanist celebrants may conduct naming ceremonies for babies and non-religious weddings, and also help celebrate the life of someone who has died.

Finding happiness in life is an important goal for humanists; it is a priority when you only have one life. However, overindulgence does people no good. Enjoying good food and drink, participating in sport, art or music may be keys to happiness, but not at the expense of personal health or the wellbeing of others, nor to the detriment of the environment.