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The Seven Deadly Sins Today

The seven deadly sins are also referred to as the capital vices. These include a group of vices with regard to the Western religious classification. These seven deadly sins are termed capital because they originate from other forms of vices. *The Seven Deadly Sins Today* by Henry Fairlie is an literature that studies and explores more about the topic of sin and its nature. The sin as a phenomenon is described as one of the extraordinary facts of life. There is a huge debate surrounding the theme of sin in the cultural and contemporary setting.

In that regard, Henry Fairlie have seen the need to talk about the topic of sin. He has discussed this subject in ways that enriched our society and touched on our lives. The author has talked about sin from an ancient platform, which he also related to the modern life such as conservative politics, abortion, racism, and discrimination among others. Therefore, this paper aims to discuss the book *The Seven Deadly Sins Today* by Henry Fairlie and show the author's understanding of seven sins, taking into account that pride is one of the most horrible.

Several sins have been discussed in the book. The list containing the seven vices subsequently presents wrath as strong unforgiving rage that individuals possess and inflict on others. Envy is the next sin in line and refers to resentful awareness of an advantage that another person enjoys with another yearning to own the same benefit. Lastly, pride is the seventh of deadly sins and refers to the quality of being proud.

It should be noticed that pride is the deadliest of all “seven sins of today.” Nevertheless, everyone finds pride in his/herself. Moreover, there is nothing inappropriate with being proud. Being proud gives an individual the feeling of self-confidence which is beneficial for motivation and general moral boost. Nonetheless, there is a distinct difference between “being confident” and “being proud.” When an individual thinks he or she is better than others after accomplishing a certain task, there is a need to have a benchmark upon which one can make such a judgment or come to a conclusion that he or she is enormously good. Consequently, due to pride, the individuals can commit the other remaining types of sins. In that regard, it is pride that makes an individual greedy. Furthermore, it is due to the fact that pride always exalts individuals and put them above others. At the same time, pride depicts selfish ambitions and makes a person feel like everything belongs to him/her. What is more, pride makes people to feel that they are better, skilled, well-equipped, or more able than others. But according to the author, “It is even possible to feel good when we are doing wrong and know what we are doing. Should we not be proud of ourselves?” (Fairlie 39-40). But when we place ourselves on the pedestal of superiority, then we can overlook others believing that we are the best and others are not.

Today, pride has taken over people social life and it is another reason it can also be considered the deadliest of all sins (Porter 15). The humans are naturally designed to live with beliefs, values, and culture, or political standing. People have certain preferences and so on. However, “pride is such a bad thing because it makes people say I am right,” which makes another person feel wrong, stupid, or worse (Porter 16). Pride has taken over the very belief that everyone is equal in the eyes of the creator. Because of pride, one person demeans. Because of pride one person demonizes the other. This is the bad thing about the feeling of pride. Why does pride act as a threshold of justification and a platform of destroying equality? Pride is a root of

all others sins, being a perfect basis for development of almost all possible immoral qualities of person's soul.

Pride is also the deadliest and the worst among all sins because it is the cause of impatience and stubbornness. Pride makes a man to become arrogant. It makes a human selfish and self-centered. Due to all these aspects, it is extremely hard for people to work together as a team and produce effectively and efficiently. Teamwork has been known to be a great tool of success, but if people cannot work together or cooperate because of pride, then, it means that this sin also destroys vision, goals, and optimism. Pride is evil according to Fairlie (42) because it is the reason people are filled with self-pleasure to a point of ignoring and overlooking others. According to Paul in the Bible, pride destroys love. In his example, he argues that charity is good because it is through charity people serve others. "Charity is a good thing that is not does not rejoice in bad things but only in good and the truth" (Gregory 214). Paul further argues that it is rich and powerful who portray pride. The rich and powerful have no charity in them. Therefore, pride is a cause of destruction and a reason of why people cannot work together to prosper and produce significant results. Certainly, pride is the deadliest sin.

Evidently, pride is seen in the society. Individuals that have social media influence also reveal their sense of pride. For instance, Kanye West is a musician that will never shy off in revealing how much pride is bred in him. "Listen to what I'm saying-me as Kanye: I guarantee you, I'm more than 50 percent responsible for every man's shoe that they sell" ("GQ Magazine (Ft. Kanye West) – Kanye West: A Brand-New Ye"). Many of his fans like Philip Roser as well as Higginbotham follow him closely during shows and exposing their proud acts. In their shows, Kanye West is depicted as an individual who becomes a man through his efforts. He is quoted saying, "I am the definition of art" which is to mean that he is top artists ("GQ Magazine

(Ft. Kanye West) – Kanye West: A Brand-New Ye"). He even compares himself to the great and famous people. This is self-praise. It is a devastating sentiment that calls for him to look for ways of humbling himself. As the say goes, pride comes before a fall.

To conclude, according to Fairlie and his book *The Seven Deadly Sins Today*, among the seven deadly sins, pride proves to be the deadliest of all. This paper revealed how and what made pride the most dangerous of the seven deadly sins. Moreover, through the discussion, it has been established that pride is the worst of the sins because it leads to hatred and self-righteousness.

Works Cited

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