

Concerning the
American
HUMANIST
Association

THE BELIEFS OF HUMANISTS

Do you believe that through intelligent co-operation men can live a good life and lessen poverty, war, disease, and prejudice? Do you believe that men will continue to learn more about the way the earth was formed, life developed, and how men have created their ethical and moral systems? Do you believe that religious dogmas and political authoritarianisms have limited human progress? Humanists do.

Humanism is a philosophy and a way of life. It is the general viewpoint of a growing number of thoughtful, discerning people for whom the old orthodoxies have lost significance, and who find satisfaction in this positive, constructive approach to living.

With science as the starting point of its philosophy, humanism furthers mental and emotional security, offers workable standards for ethics, and provides a basis for inspired living. Whereas it is a reasonable, adequate philosophy, some people prefer also to regard humanism as a vibrant, satisfying religion.

The Humanist will have no part of racial or religious prejudice, or of any system of thought which thinks of a man not as an individual but as a stereotype of a group to which he happens to belong. The Humanist sees quite clearly that whenever any man is robbed of dignity and freedom, including freedom of thought, all men are the losers.

The Humanist is devoted to the realization of human values here on earth. He has faith that by means of research, increasing skill in co-operation, and goodwill in human relations men can build a better and more peaceful world.