

Nihilism is a family of philosophical views. Existential nihilism asserts that life is inherently meaningless and lacks a higher purpose, suggesting that all individual and societal achievements are ultimately pointless. Moral nihilism denies the objective existence of morality, arguing that moral evaluations and practices rest on misguided assumptions without any foundation in external reality. Epistemological forms of nihilism challenge objective knowledge and truth. Some versions argue that these phenomena are relative to the perspectives of individuals or cultural contexts, while others deny their existence altogether. Cosmological nihilism is the view that reality is unintelligible and indifferent to human understanding. Metaphysical nihilism holds that there is no fundamental reason for why something exists rather than nothing. Nihilism is also described as a broad cultural phenomenon or historical movement that pervades modernity in the Western world.