

# A beautiful island called: Europe

Our Utopia



# Thomas More: Utopia



Brief as that little work is, it has introduced into our language a word the meaning of which is understood by thousands and tens of thousands who have never read the fiction from whence it is derived; while volumes upon volumes of metaphysical politics have sunk into deep pool of oblivion, without raising even a momentary bubble upon its surface.

**Many are the social  
issues of Utopia;  
we concentrate on the  
following:**

- **War**
- **Distribution of wealth**
- **Condition of Women**
- **Work and unemployment**
- **Religion**
- **Death Penalty**



# WAR





# **WAR FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF UTOPIANS**

**Utopians hate war and try to avoid it at all costs. They find no glory in killing, though they do constantly train and if pressed prove a mighty enemy. They engage in warfare only to protect themselves, their friends, or to free oppressed peoples. Utopians would rather use cunning to win wars than brute force. They consider strength to be a trait belonging to all animals, while only humans are intelligent. Thus, manly victories come through intelligent manouverings rather than direct attacks. When a declaration of war is made, the Utopians first rely on propaganda; they secretly put up posters in enemy territory offering huge rewards for the assassination of the enemy leaders. They offer similar rewards to any of those leaders who betray their fellows. Other nations condemn this behavior as dishonorable; the Utopians defend it with the argument that they are in fact humane, ending massive wars with very little bloodshed. Other tactics include causing dissension by, for example, promising the throne to an enemy ruler's brother if that brother supports the Utopian cause. In helping their friends, Utopians do not like to risk their own citizens, but they are unstinting in providing money and materials.**

**Mankind must put an end to war**  
**before war puts an end to mankind.**

**John F. Kennedy**





# **Dulce et decorum est. Wilfred Owen**

Bent double, like old beggars  
under sacks,  
Knock-kneed, coughing like  
hags, we cursed through  
sludge,  
Till on the haunting flares we  
turned out backs,  
And towards our distant rest  
began to trudge.  
Men marched asleep. Many had  
lost their boots,  
But limped on, blood-shod. All  
went lame, all blind;  
Drunk with fatigue; deaf even to  
the hoots  
Of gas-shells dropping softly  
behind.

Gas! GAS! Quick, boys! - An  
ecstasy of fumbling  
Fitting the clumsy helmets just  
in time,  
But someone still was yelling  
out and stumbling  
And flound'ring like a man in  
fire or lime.-  
Dim through the misty panes  
and thick green light,  
As under a green sea, I saw him  
drowning.

In all my dreams before my  
helpless sight  
He plunges at me,  
guttering, choking,  
drowning.

If in some smothering  
dreams, you too could  
pace  
Behind the wagon that we  
flung him in,  
And watch the white eyes  
writhing in his face,  
His hanging face, like a  
devil's sick of sin,  
If you could hear, at every  
jolt, the blood  
Come gargling from the  
froth-corrupted lungs  
Bitter as the cud  
Of vile, incurable sores on  
innocent tongues,-  
My friend, you would not  
tell with such high zest  
To children ardent for  
some desperate glory,  
The old Lie: Dulce et  
decorum est  
Pro patria mori.



VS

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

- Nelson Mandela





# UKRAINE NOWADAYS













# ISIS: RELIGIOUS WAR





هذا جزء كل من يخرب أولياء الله المجاهدين ... لعنات قبل التنفيذ





# “ISIS GROOMING CHILDREN FOR JIHAD”





# CHILD SOLDIERS

A black and white photograph of a young child, likely a child soldier, holding a large handful of bullets in their cupped hands. The child's face is blurred in the background. The image is overlaid with white text.

DURING A  
BRUTAL  
TRAGIC  
CIVIL WAR,  
MILLIONS OF  
**CHILD SOLDIERS**  
ARE BEING  
EXPLOITED  
TREATED AS  
**WEAPONS**  
DISCOVER THE UNSEEN  
**INVISIBLE  
CHILDREN**  
[WWW.INVISIBLECHILDREN.COM](http://WWW.INVISIBLECHILDREN.COM)

# WHAT WE THINK ABOUT IT...

War exists because men by nature are utilitarian and above all selfish. War derives from the fact that, in the absence of agreement and civic sense, men try to prevail over others to get what they want, but to the detriment of others.

Our opinion on war can be summarised in these few words:

**“Through violence you may murder a murderer, but you can't murder murder.**

**Through violence you may murder a liar, but you can't establish truth.**

**Through violence you may murder a hater, but you can't murder hate.**

**Darkness cannot put out darkness.**

**Only light can do that...”**

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**



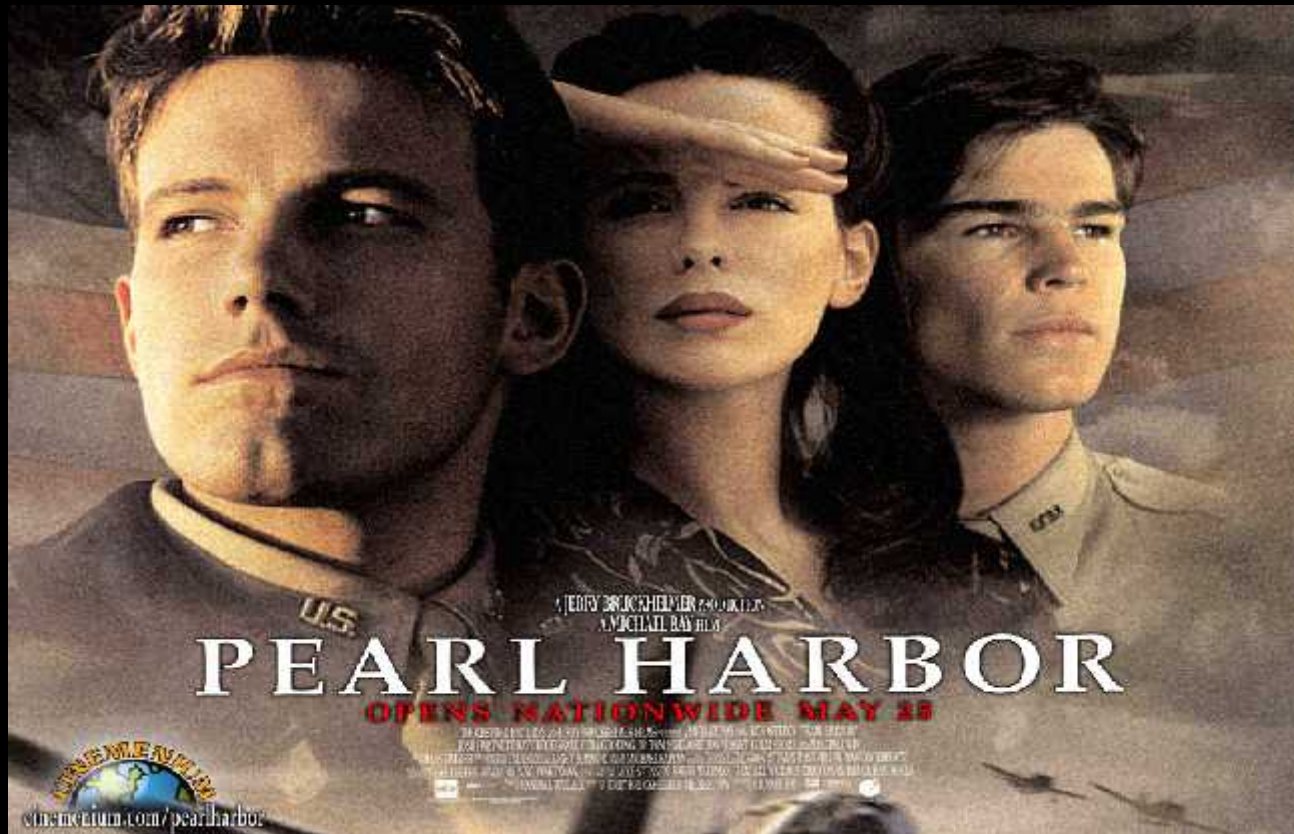
# RESCUE DAWN (2006)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UNm9Tzo5rvI>

# SOUNDTRACK :

# PEARL HARBOUR, HANS ZIMMER





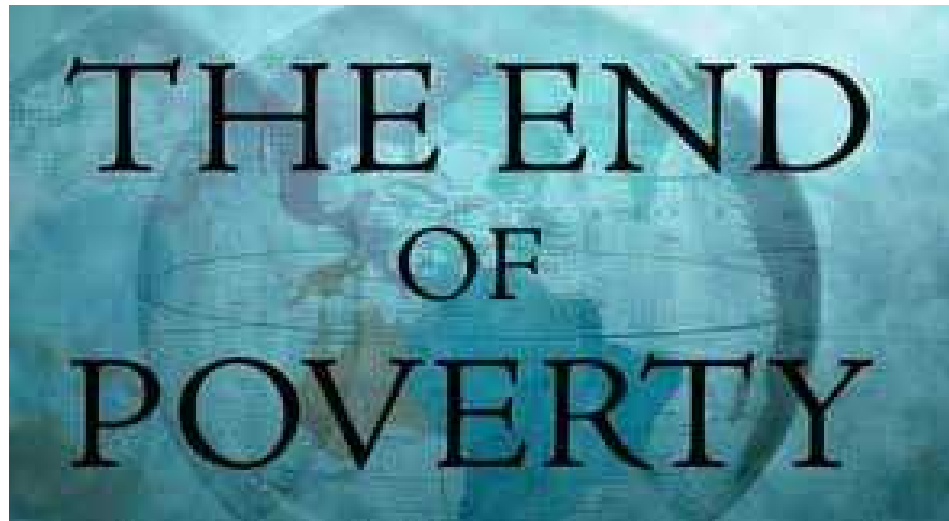
# DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH

*«ndiving creature is naturally greedy except for fear of want»*



# Main characteristics

- Wealth is eliminated.
- No private property, no poverty
- People don't care about being rich
- No greed, everyone is happy
- No money-driven european society





# Economy

- The economic structure of markets and money don't exist.
- Economy is quite developed, because work was rewarded not with money, but with primary goods, like food.
- In the past there was slavery, but not now because there is no private property, so slaves are not property.



- The production of agriculture is stored in public rooms in cities. From city the peasants are given everything they need
- In these storage rooms every family comes to put what they have produced and to take what they need. (Distribution of wealth)
- All the citizens enjoy social equality, because they must work in the same way, without discrimination. Everyone has the same rights.



# Houses

- The houses were opened to everybody as nobody wanted to steal, because they didn't need to steal; they already had everything they needed in order to survive in Utopian society.
- Each household comes under the authorities of the oldest male.

# Social organization

- Every town is divided into four districts of equal size, each with its own shopping centre in the middle. There the products of every household are stored in warehouses, and then distributed according to type among various shops. When the head of a household needs anything for himself or his family, he just goes to one of these shops and asks for it. Whatever he asks for, he's allowed to take away without any sort of payment, either in money or in kind.



- The authorities never force people to work unnecessarily, because the main purpose of their whole economy is to give each person as much time as possible free from physical drudgery as needed, so that people can cultivate their minds - which they regard as the secret of a happy life.

# Other important characters concerned with private property

- Another important character linked to the topic of private property is Sylvain Maréchal, a Jacobite. He supported the equality of citizens, like Thomas More had said before he wrote the “Manifeste des egaux”, a manifesto in which he explained his ideas and motivations. These were similar to that of Thomas More. In fact Sylvain was influenced by Utopian Socialism. 💡



- There was also a third character, Marx, who shared the same opinions of More and Sylvain, but he adapted them to his society.
- He wrote the Manifesto of Communist Party, between 1847 and 1848.



# KARL MARX

- Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels wrote, in their pamphlet the "MANIFESTO", what they thought about private property.
- In a few words, they said that without bourgeois property, this world would be better.
- This is an extract of their masterpiece: "communism deprives no man of the power to appropriate the products of society; all that it does is to deprive him of the power to subjugate the labour of others by means of such appropriation. It has been objected that upon the abolition of private property all work will cease and universal laziness will take us over. According to this, bourgeois society ought long ago to have gone to the dogs through sheer idleness, for those of its members who work; acquire nothing, and those who acquire anything, do not work."



# The process of modernization

The term "modernization" emerged in the second half of the XX century, replacing the notions of "industrialization" or "capitalism". Industrialization is one of the changes that occur in the modernization, but not the only, while the concept of capitalism, coined by Karl Marx, has a central role in the Marxian critique of political economy. It was argued that the notion of modernization has the advantage of gathering the great transformations that have led to modern societies. Modernization is a drastic change of the set of social relations, induced by a radical economic transformation. There was a phase of urban attraction in which more and better job opportunities were generated in industry and services.



# Our personal opinions

- We think that More was a very interesting character. We agree with him for what concerns the private property, because according to what he says, everybody is equal in front of the law. In this Utopian Society everybody is equal, but they are also homologated. The only thing we don't agree are the opened houses, because there is no privacy. In the end we think that private property shouldn't exist, because in this way someone is always disavantaged, in particular poor people.



# The condition of the women

“Wives are subordinated to their husbands, children to their parents, and younger people generally to their elders”



# Klimt- Judith I

Klimt depicts Judith as a femme fatale. She looks down on the viewer, her mouth voluptuously open and with her right hand she strokes the hair of Holofernes. The mountains, the fig trees and the vine stock refer to an Assyrian relief on the Palace of Sennacherib as a biblical place. Judith, also often mentioned as Salome, is a chaste widow who defeats the haughty military leader of the Assyrians by plain ruse without seducing Holofernes and in a moment of weakness decapitates him. Klimt's brother Ernst made the frame. The painting was first shown at the 8th International Art exhibition in Munich 1901

Ipazia – “I believe in philosophy”





Women must try to do things as men have tried. When they fail, their failure must be but a challenge to others.

-Amelia Earhart





# Virginia Woolf

- During the interwar period, Woolf was a significant figure in London literary society and a central figure in the influential Bloomsbury Group of intellectuals
- A woman must have money and a room of her own if she is to write fiction.
- Woolf suffered from severe bouts of mental illness throughout her life, thought to have been the result of what is now termed bipolar disorder, and committed suicide by drowning in 1941 at the age of 59



“Lock up your libraries  
if you like; but there is  
no gate, no lock, no bolt  
that you can set upon  
the freedom of my  
mind.”

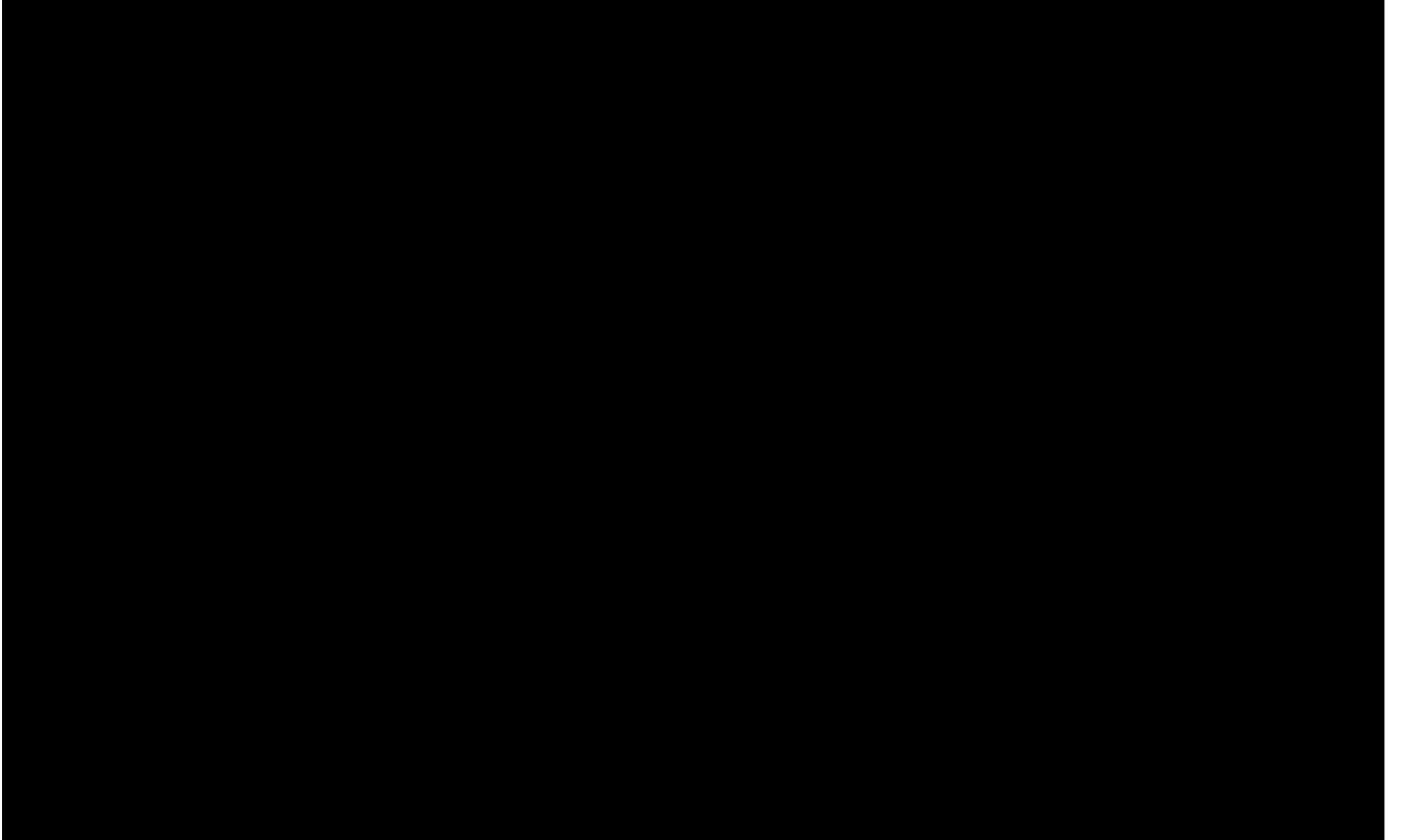
—VIRGINIA WOOLF



Women have served all these centuries as looking glasses possessing the magic and delicious power of reflecting the figure of man at twice its natural size.

*Virginia Woolf*

# Margaret Thatcher – The iron Lady







**Work  
and  
Unemployment**

# 1) Work in Utopia

- Work is a fundamental activity and represents an important value
- It is compulsory for everyone
- There is no unemployment (which was a big problem in Great Britain in 1500)
- The people have a 6 hour working day (3 hours in the morning and 3 in the evening)
- They go to sleep at 8 pm and rest for 8 hours
- In the remaining 24 hours they are free to do what they like

- They cannot waste time in useless activities
- Most people spend this free period on: further education and attending public lectures
- nothing can stop people from spending extra time on their trade, if they don't the capacity for intellectual work
- After the evening meal they have an hour's recreation (in gardens or communal dining halls)



- Some people practice music and others just talk
- They have two games:
  - The 1<sup>st</sup> is a sort of arithmetical contest
  - the 2<sup>nd</sup> is a pitched battle between virtues and vices, that illustrates how vices tend to conflict with one another and also combine against virtues
- These working hours are very productive as long as they are able to make enough goods to have a good life

## 2) The problem of unemployment in Utopia

There are very few people who work and actually produce what the society really consumes, because people like nobility, priests and domestic staff don't really cooperate as much as they are supposed to.

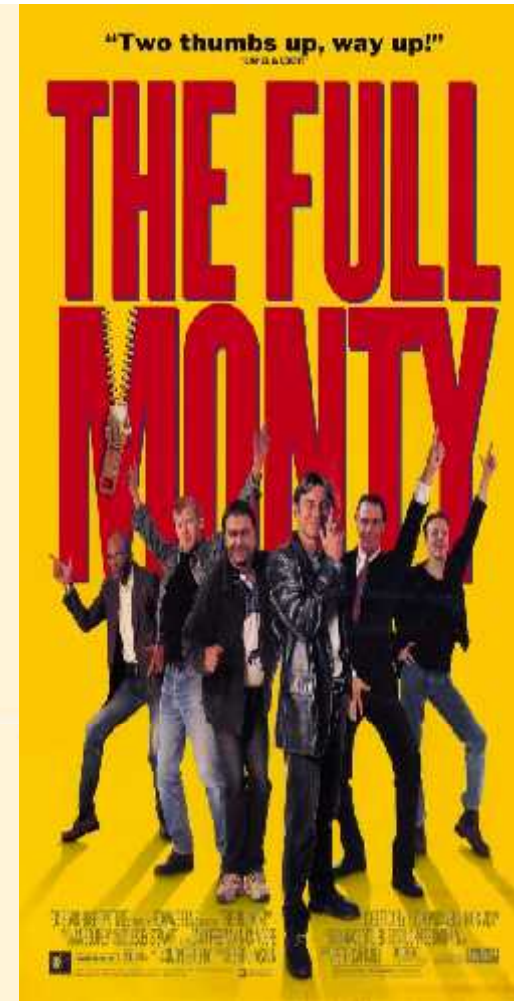


*«They don't wear people out though by keeping them hard at work from early morning till late at night, like cat horses.»*  
**Thomas More**

# The full monty

*«So what happens if next Friday 400 women come and say: ‘that one is too fat, the other is too old and the third looks like a chicken breast’.....then what do we do?»*

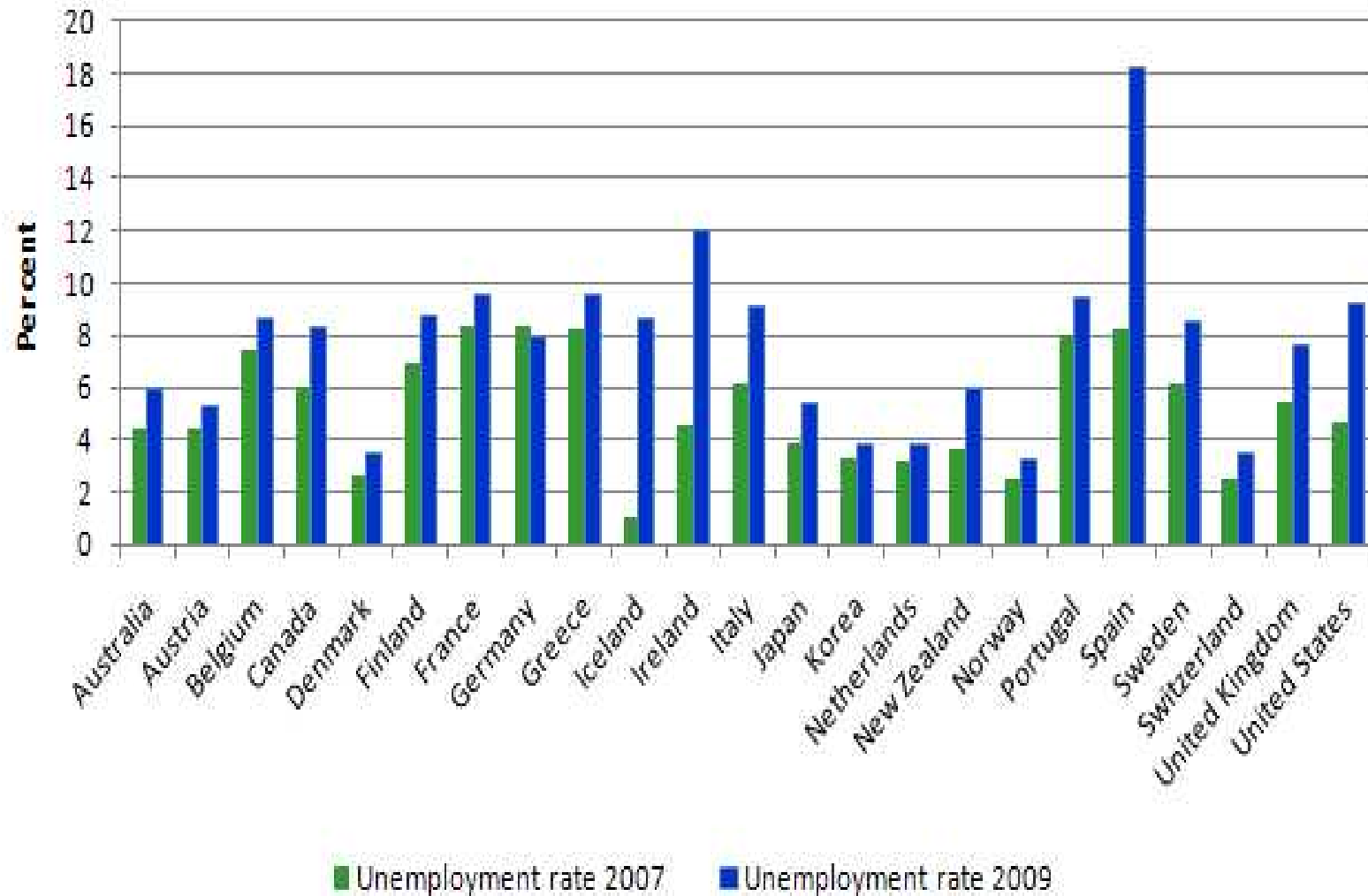




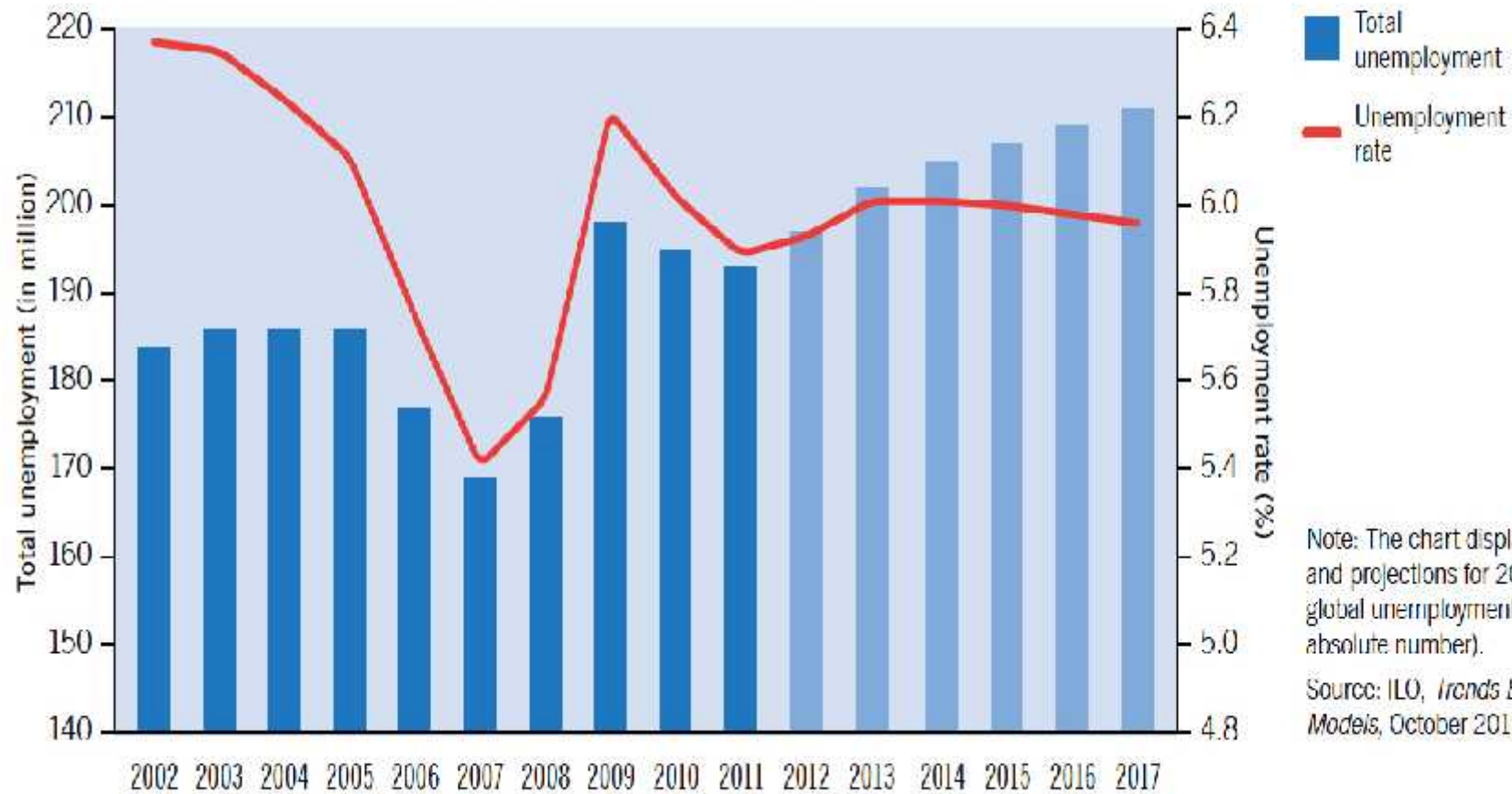
*«It is strange how someone gets tired doing nothing, you know?»*



# 3) Unemployment today



**Figure 2. Global unemployment trends and projections, 2002–17**



Note: The chart displays past trends and projections for 2012 onwards for global unemployment (rate and absolute number).

Source: ILO, *Trends Economic Models*, October 2012.

## 4) Our Opinions:

**THERE WILL BE OBSTACLES.  
THERE WILL BE DOUBTERS.  
THERE WILL BE MISTAKES.  
BUT WITH HARD WORK,  
THERE ARE NO LIMITS.**

- *We think that work is very important; through it you can always learn something new.*
- *Work provides economic stability.*
- *We have to follow our target/dreams because work gives us great rewards.*
- *We should always love what we do.*
- *We are against exploitation.*



*«I don't like work, nobody likes it.  
But i like what is inside the work:  
the possibility of finding  
ourselves»*

***Joseph Conrad***

## 5) Work in Art

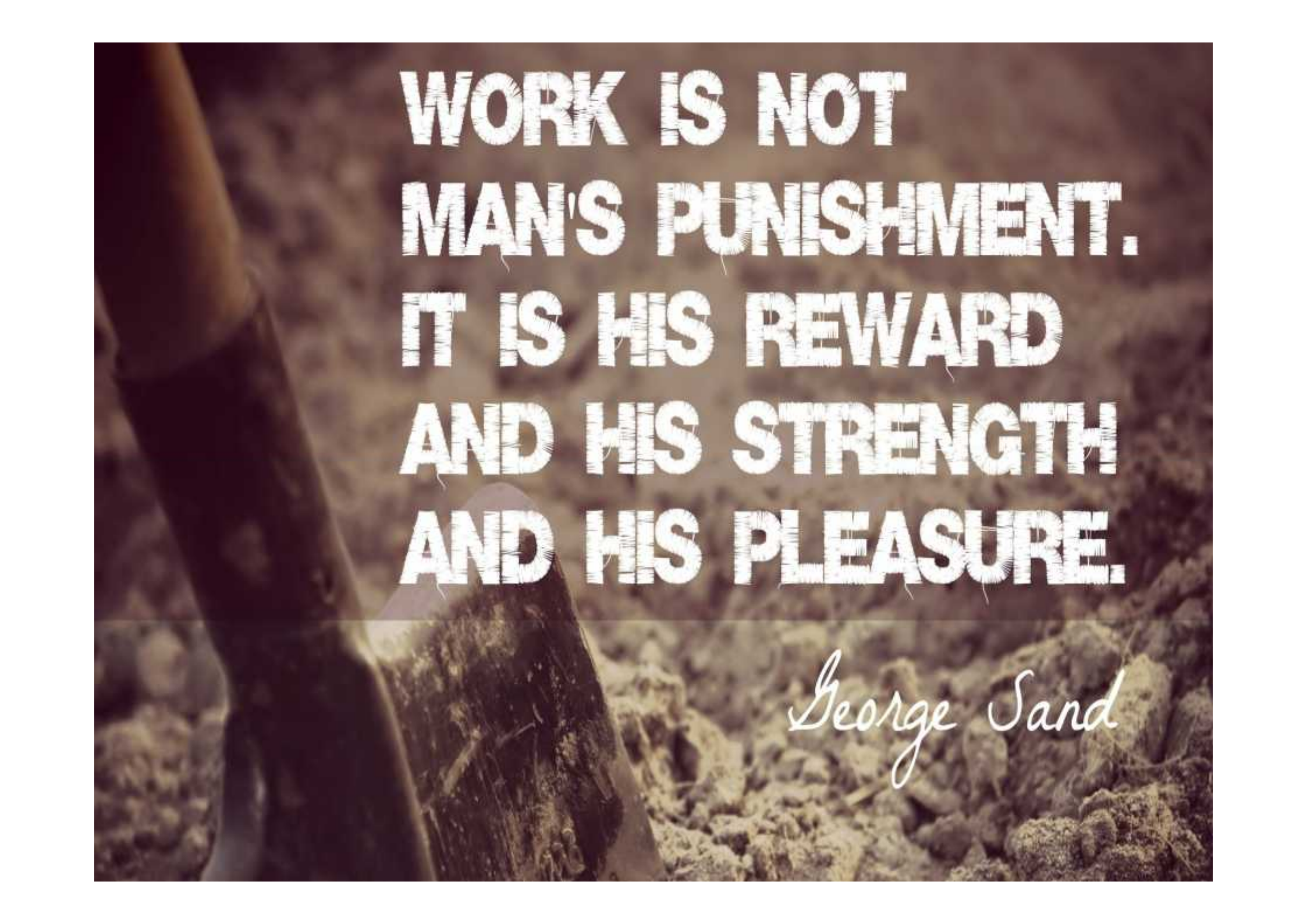


Stonebreaker  
G. Courbet



The Sower at the  
sunset  
V. Van gogh





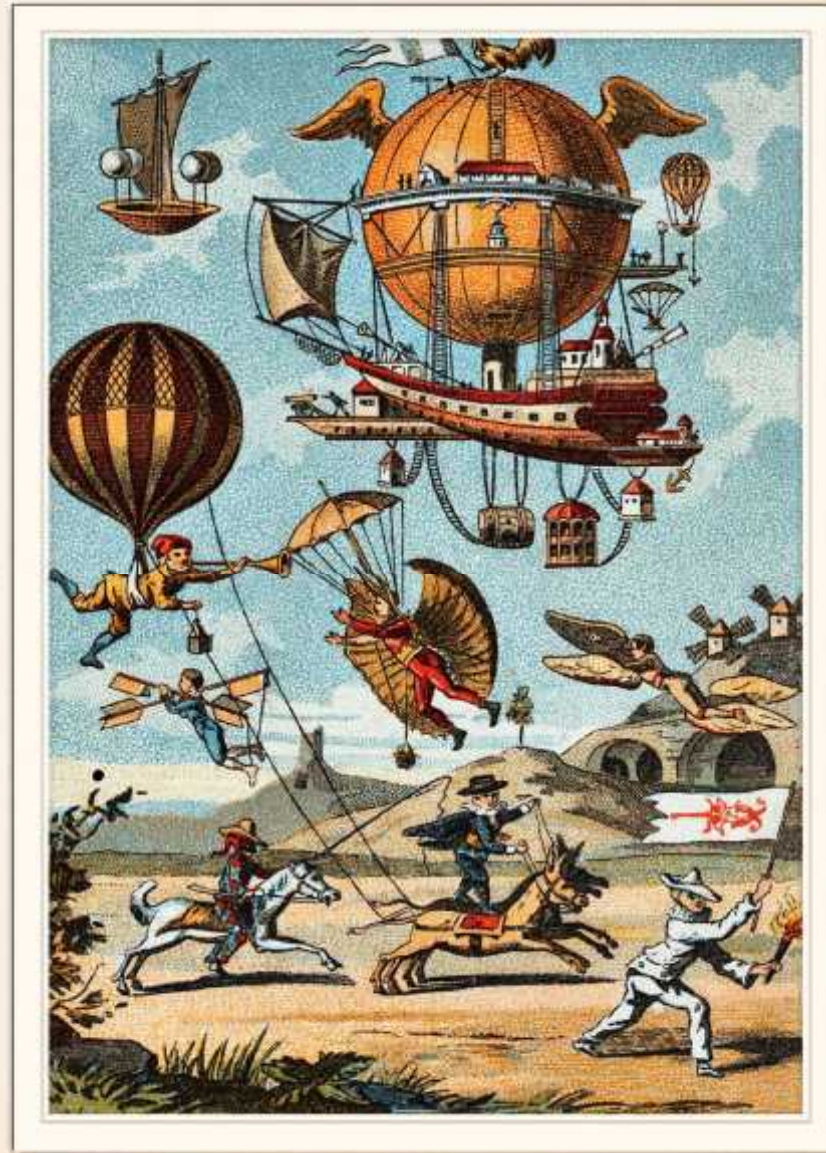
**WORK IS NOT  
MAN'S PUNISHMENT.  
IT IS HIS REWARD  
AND HIS STRENGTH  
AND HIS PLEASURE.**

*George Sand*





# RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE





“[...] there is one Supreme Being, Who is responsible for the creation and management of the universe, and they all use the same Utopian word to describe Him: Mythras.

— ❧ —

What they disagree about is, who Mythras is.”

“Everyone is free to practice what religion he likes, and to try and convert other people to his own faith, provided he did it quietly and politely, by rational argument.

But if he fails to convince them, he is not allowed to make bitter attacks on other religions, nor to employ violence or personal abuse.

The normal penalty for being too aggressive in religious controversy is either exile or slavery.”

## Utopian religions

### *Numerous creeds*

*The most intelligent majority claims that there is an unknown, eternal, immense, incommunicable being called Father, to whom is attributed birth, growth, development and events*

*The others, even if they believe in different principles, claim that a greater entity called Mythras*

*Mythras is nature itself, to whose power and majesty is attributed the existence of everything*

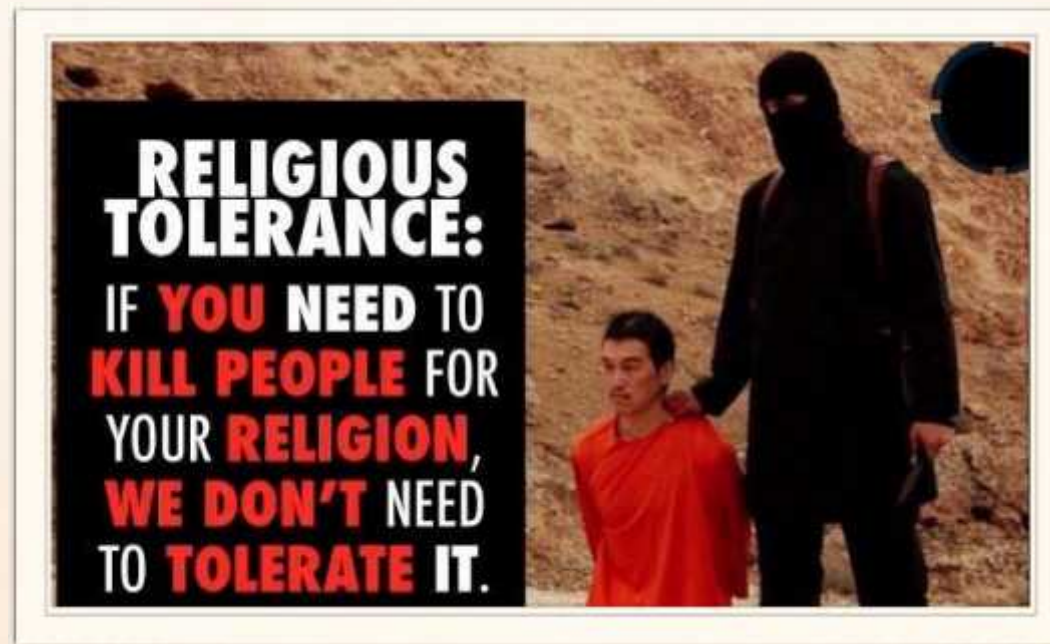
*Little by little everybody abandons superstitions and conveys the belief in that one religion*

*Many of them, however, as they came across Christian religion and saw its principles, decided to practice it.*

## MEASURES FOR PEACE

*Nobody should be persecuted for his/her religious beliefs, anybody can believe in any religion he/she wants*

*Whoever attacks with extreme violence someone's religion is condemned to exile and slavery*







## •CHURCHES AND PRIESTS

*There are 13 churches and no more than 13 priests*

*Priests are chosen by the people*

*They take in marriage the best women*

*They educate the children*

•*They have 3 main roles:*

*They are at the head of religious ceremonies, celebrated in a way which would not harm anyone: they don't sacrifice animals, they burn incense and other perfumes. They celebrate the first and last day of every month*

*They take care of religious rites*

*They are moral censors*

rearranged by Demetrio Cecchitelli  
and translated by Giulia Druda





# Charlie Hebdo



- ✦ On 7th January 2015, two Islamic gunmen forced their way into and opened fire on the Paris headquarters of Charlie Hebdo, killing twelve people . The day after the attack, the remaining staff of Charlie Hebdo announced that publication would continue, with the following week's edition of the newspaper to be published according to the usual schedule with a print run of one million copies (up significantly from its usual 60000.)





- ◆ The “Je suis Charlie” slogan became an endorsement of freedom of speech and press



The front cover edition of 14th January 2015, with a cartoon in the same style as 3rd November 2011 cover, uses the phrase “Je suis Charlie”. (Headline translation: “All is forgiven”)

# bloody sunday

U2



Torment of the Jew, Judah tortured  
in the well. Fresco by Piero della  
Francesca (Legend of the True  
Cross, San Francesco - Arezzo)

XXXV





# DEATH PENALTY

• Thou shalt not kill





# THOMAS MORE: UTOPIA

- “Petty larceny isn’t bad enough to deserve the death penalty. And no penalty on earth will stop people from stealing, if it’s their only way of getting food. In this respect, you English, like most other nations, remind me of these incompetent schoolmasters, who prefer caning their pupils to teaching them. Instead of inflicting these horrible punishments, it would be far more to the point to provide everyone with some means of livelihood, so that nobody’s under the frightful necessity of becoming, first a thief, and then a corpse.”



# DEATH PENALTY IN THE WORLD

Afghanistan  
Antigua and Barbuda  
Bahamas  
Bahrain  
Bangladesh  
Belarus  
Barbados  
Belize  
Botswana  
Chad  
China  
Comoros  
Congo  
Cuba  
Dominica  
Egypt  
Equatorial Guinea  
Ethiopia  
Gambia  
Guatemala  
Guinea  
Guyana  
India

Indonesia  
Iran  
Iraq  
Jamaica  
Japan  
Jordan  
Kuwait  
Lebanon  
Lesotho  
Libya  
Malaysia  
Nigeria  
North Korea  
Oman  
Pakistan  
Palestinian A.  
Qatar  
St. Kitts and Nevis  
St. Lucia  
St. Vincent  
Uganda  
United Arab Emirates

Saudi Arabia  
Singapore  
Somalia  
Sudan  
Syria  
Taiwan  
Thailand

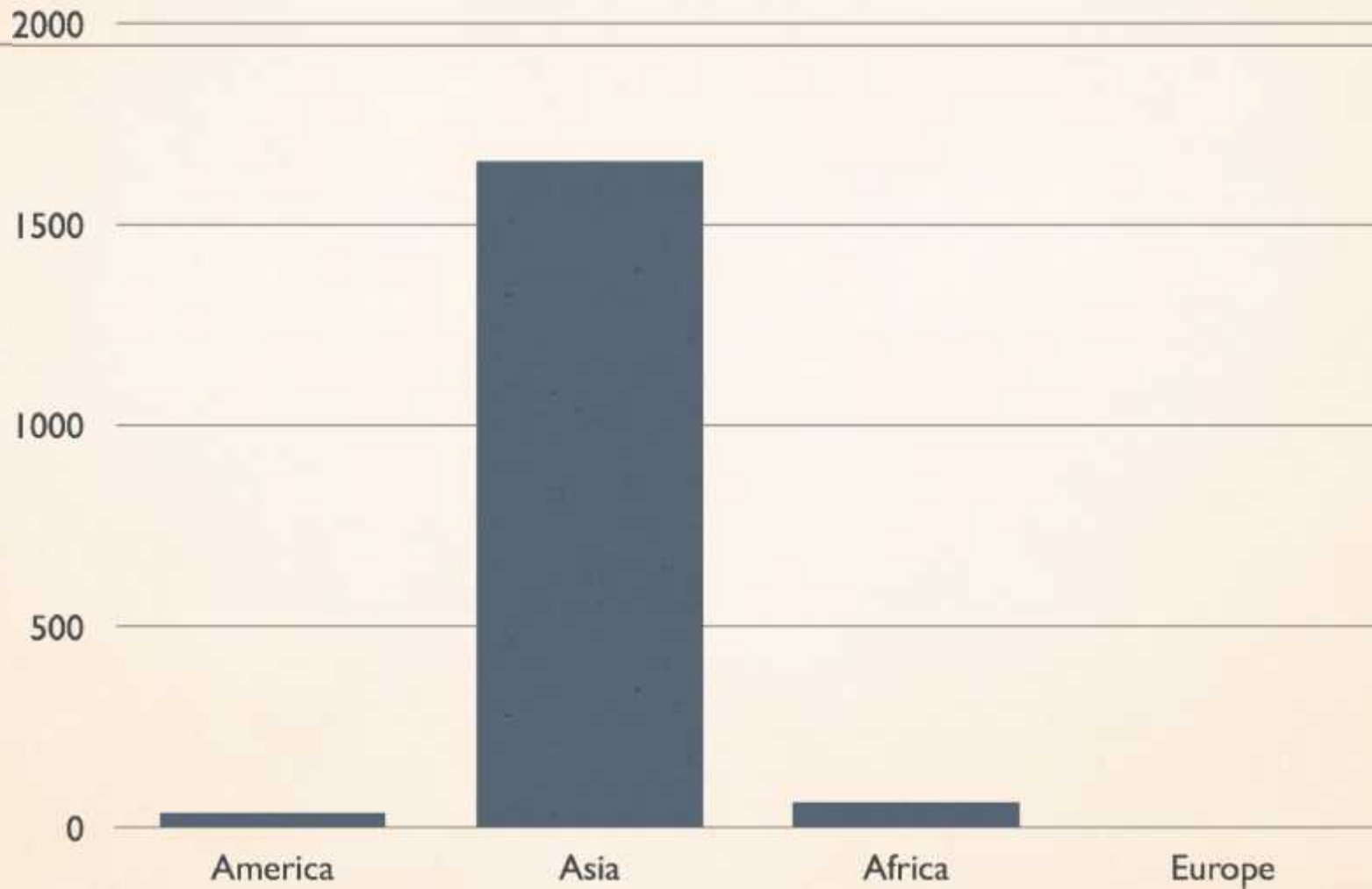
United States  
Vietnam  
Yemen  
Zimbabwe  
Trinidad and Tobago



# TODAY

- \* 40 States of the world still use death penalty
- \* 48 States keep the death penalty but they haven't used it for 10 years
- \* 7 States still death penalty in certain causes
- \* 100 States have abolished it

# Executions in 2013





# Contemporary Era

The 20th century was a violent period. Tens of millions were killed in wars between nation-states as well as genocide perpetrated by nation states against political opponents (both perceived and actual), ethnic and religious minorities; the Turkish assault on the Armenians, Hitler's attempt to exterminate the European Jews, the Khmer Rouge decimation of Cambodia, the massacre of the Tutsis in Rwanda, to cite four of the most notorious examples. A large part of execution was summary execution of enemy combatants. In Nazi Germany there were three types of capital punishment; hanging, decapitation and death by shooting. Also, modern military organisations employed capital punishment as a means of maintaining military discipline. The Soviets, for example, executed 158,000 soldiers for desertion during World War II. In the past, cowardice, absence without leave, desertion, insubordination, looting, shirking under enemy fire and disobeying orders were often crimes punishable by death (see decimation and running the gauntlet). One method of execution since firearms came into common use has almost invariably been firing squad. Various authoritarian states— for example those with fascist or communist governments— employed the death penalty as a potent means of political oppression. According to Robert Conquest, the leading expert on Stalin's purges, more than 1 million Soviet citizens were executed during the Great Terror of 1937–38, almost all by a bullet to the back of the head. Mao Zedong publicly stated that "800,000" people had been executed after the Communist Party's victory in 1949. Partly as a response to such excesses, civil rights organizations have started to place increasing emphasis on the concept of human rights and abolition of the death penalty.

# Contemporary Use

A public execution is a form of capital punishment in which "members of the general public may voluntarily attend". The standard definition normally excludes the presence of a limited number of "passive citizens" that "witness the event to assure executive accountability". While today the great majority of the world considers public executions to be uncivilized and distasteful and most countries have outlawed the practice, throughout much of history executions were performed publicly as a means for the state to demonstrate "its power before those who fell under its jurisdiction be they criminals, enemies, or political opponents". Additionally, it afforded the public a chance to witness "what was considered a great spectacle". According to Amnesty International, in 2012 "public executions were known to have been carried out in Iran, North Korea, Saudi Arabia and Somalia". Public executions have also taken place in Hamas-controlled Gaza. Mass public executions in accordance with an arguably radical form of Sharia law, occur occasionally within the vast swathes of territory occupied by Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

# BEHEADING OF SAN GIOVANNI BATTISTA





DEATH PENALTY EXECUTIONS

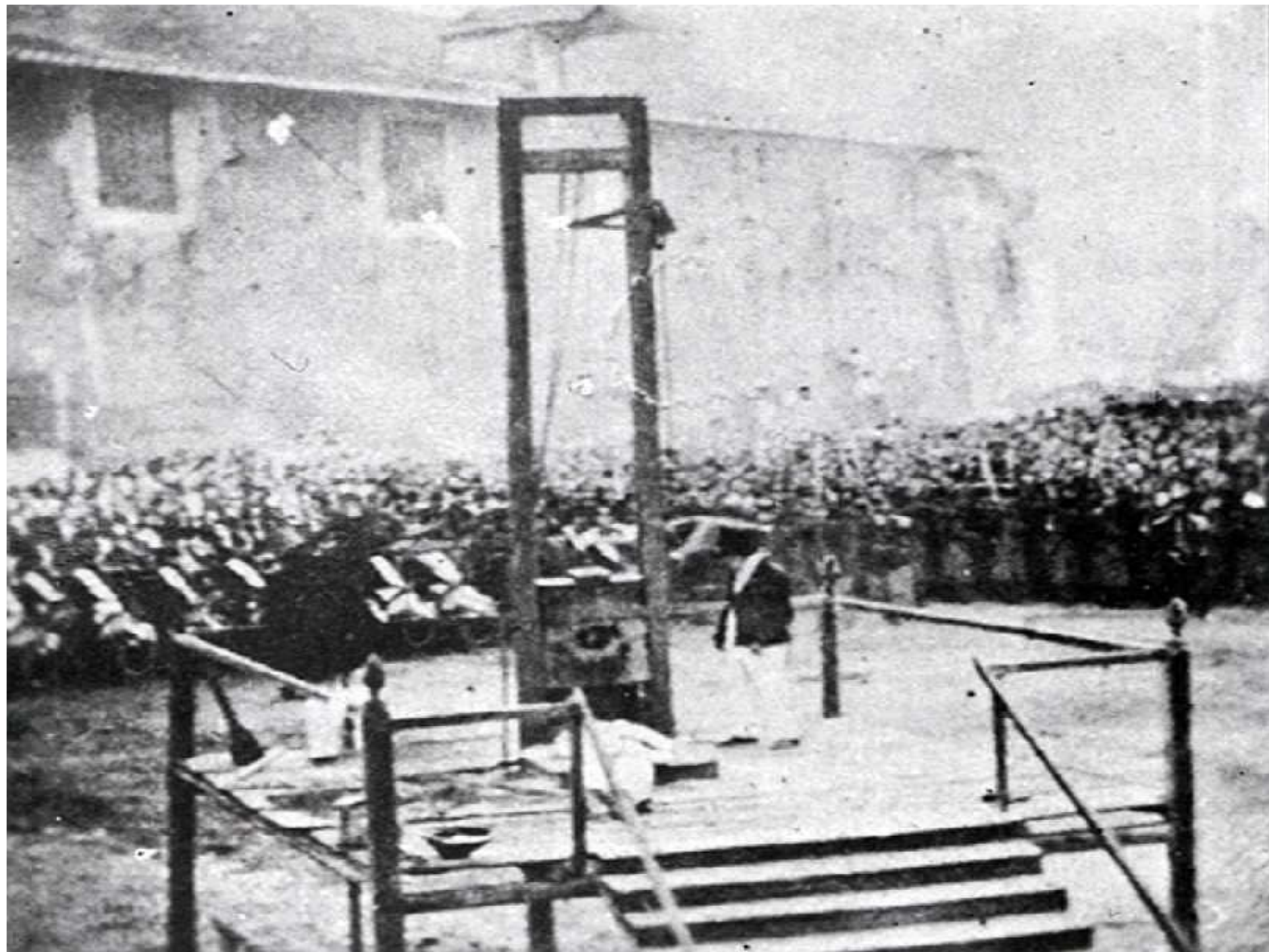




1. PARSONS BRINGS IN HIS CELL. 2. THE MARCH TO THE GALLIES. 3. DRAWING THE GALS OVER THE PRISONERS' HEADS, JUST BEFORE THE FALL OF THE TRAY.

THE LAW VINDICATED—FOUR OF THE CHICAGO ANARCHISTS PAY THE PENALTY OF THEIR CRIME—SCENES IN THE COOK COUNTY JAIL BEFORE AND AT THE MOMENT OF THE EXECUTION.

Painted by WILL T. SHAW, 1887.













# METHODS



Gas Chamber



Hanging



Electric Chair



Lethal Injection

## In support of the Death Penalty

*«I do not think you should support the death penalty to seek revenge. I do not think that's right. I think the reason to support the death penalty is because it saves other people's lives.»*

George Bush

*«Those who deny freedom to others, deserve it not for themselves; and, under a just God can not long retain it.»*

Lincoln



## Against the Death Penalty

*«Capital punishment is the most premeditated of murders.»*

Albert Camus, french philosopher

*«To take a life when a life has been lost is revenge, not justice.»*

Desmond Tutu

*«What does the lay say? You will not kill. How does it say it?*

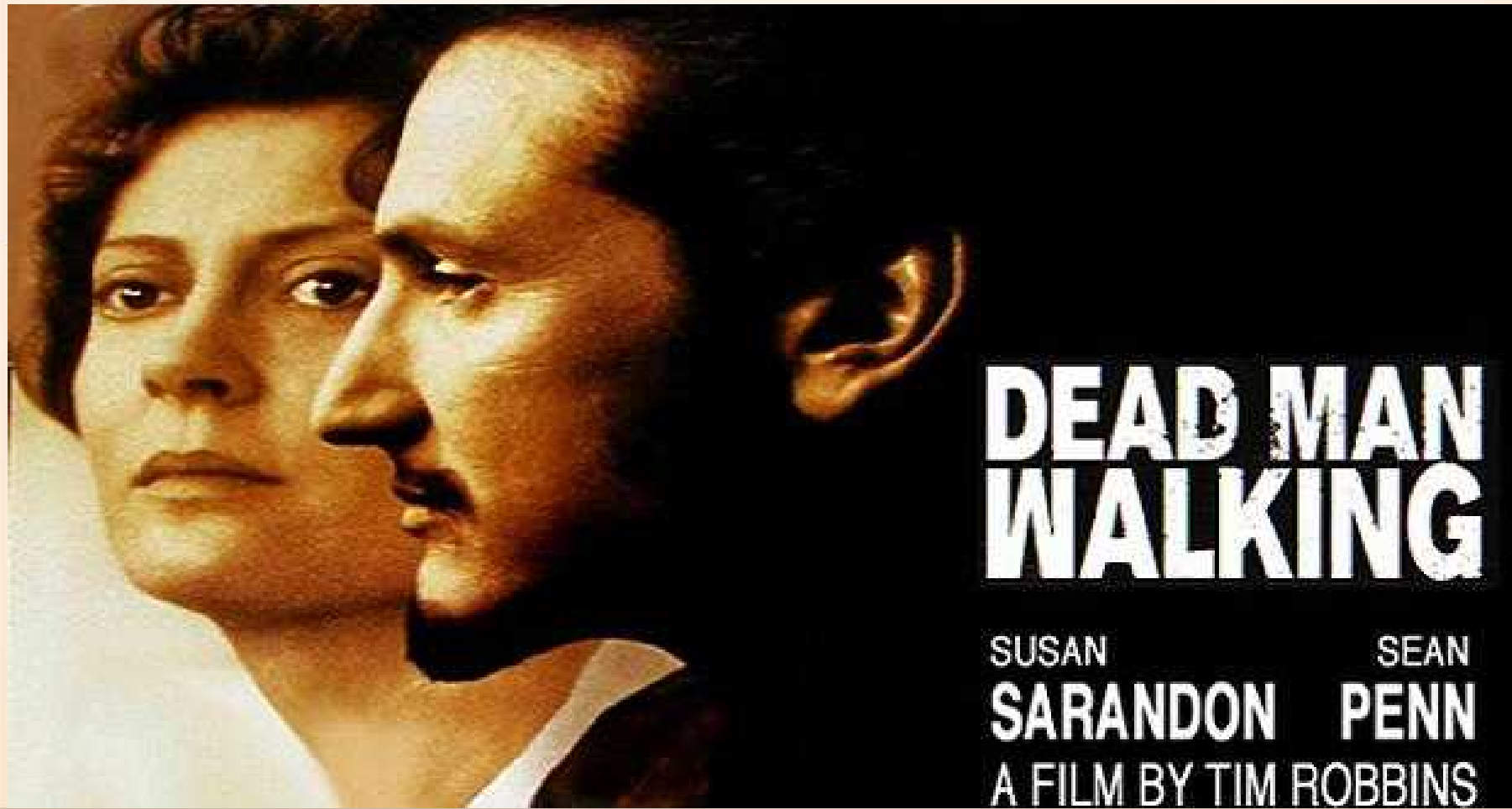
*By killing.»*

Victor Hugo, french author

*«In any case, frequent punishments are a sign of weakness or slackness in the government. There is no man so bad that he can't be made good for something. No man should be put to death, even as an example, if he can be left to live without danger to society.»*

Jean Jaques Russeau

MOVIE: DEAD MAN  
WALKING



**DEAD MAN  
WALKING**

SUSAN SARANDON SEAN PENN

A FILM BY TIM ROBBINS

