### Introduction

Virtues are a person’s moral code that helps him live in a society. These virtues and the characteristics that come from them are affected by many aspects in an individual’s life. The picture below represents what would happen to a society without virtues.

This picture represents the consequences of a society without virtues.

### Natural Inclination

- Everyone contains a set of genes that will make their identity unique.
- All humans are innately good, meaning civilization is what corrupts people (Jean-Jacques Rousseau).
- People are born greedy (Hobbes).
- People are not moral but are less vicious than savages (Miller).

### Experiences

Going through exciting events or tragic experiences can be a way for someone to acquire certain virtues. Aristotle states that intellectual virtues require experience and take time to be acquired, and moral virtues are in us by nature. These virtues are maintained by practice of those virtues, and the virtues eventually become a habit.

### Environment

Influences come in the form of experiences, and experience can be divided in three sections.

1. Environmental Experiences
   - Community, Culture, Religion
2. Experiences with others
   - Friends / Family
3. Experiences with one’s self
   - Self-defining moments

**Think About It:**
Without role models, how can a person be virtuous in a non-virtuous society or vice versa?

### Expressions

### Background

- A virtue is a trait of character manifested in habitual action.
- Virtues are affected by experiences, influences, and natural inclinations.
- Virtues can be acquired through choice.

### Conclusion

There are different viewpoints on where people gain their morals and virtues. The consensus is that people gain them from society, experiences, and relationships.

- Aristotle
- Gelhaus, Petra.
- Hobbes
- Jean-Jacques Rousseau
- Liu, Qingping. “Emotionales Versus Rationales: A Comparison Between Confucius’ And Socrates’ Ethics.”
- Miller
- Radden, J., & Sadler, J. Z.