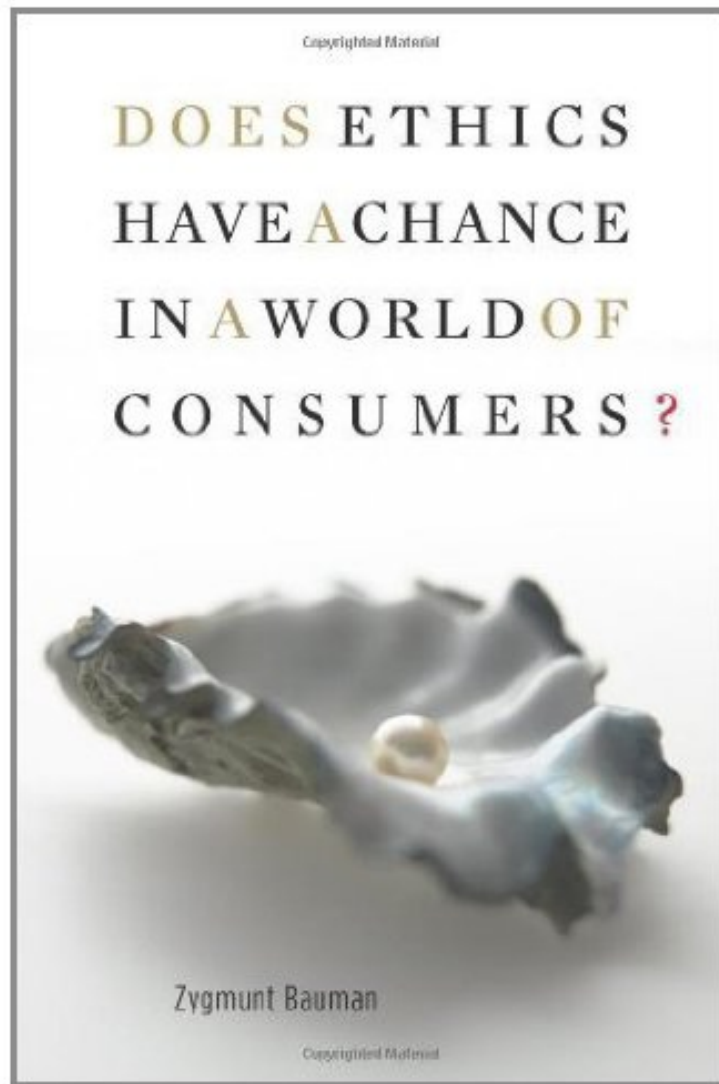


[Online library] Does Ethics Have a Chance in a World of Consumers? (Institute for Human Sciences Vienna Lecture Series)

## Does Ethics Have a Chance in a World of Consumers? (Institute for Human Sciences Vienna Lecture Series)

*Zygmunt Bauman*

*DOC | \*audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#1263350 in eBooks 2009-06-30 2009-06-30 File Name: B001GS6ZJ0 | File size: 42.Mb

**Zygmunt Bauman : Does Ethics Have a Chance in a World of Consumers? (Institute for Human Sciences Vienna Lecture Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Does Ethics Have a Chance in a World of Consumers? (Institute for Human Sciences Vienna Lecture Series):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Thought-provoking and relevantBy Jason ReynoldsThis was my introduction to the writing of Zygmunt Bauman. I am researching ethics and this book was unusual, thought-provoking

and fully relevant in a way that other titles were not. This book got me thinking in new ways about ethics in our modern world. His insights into our world also changed the way I see the world around me. 11 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Towards an ethic of inclusiveness

By Malvin "Does Ethics Have a Chance in a World of Consumers?" by Zygmunt Bauman brilliantly reasserts the importance of ethics in a frequently inhumane world. Distilling a lifetime of experiences and wisdom into a highly readable and thought-provoking tract, Mr. Bauman once again demonstrates why he remains one of the most insightful thinkers of our time. The book will no doubt provide inspiration to readers who might otherwise think that a more peaceful and secure future may no longer be possible. Mr. Bauman touches on many of the themes found in his acclaimed 'Liquid Modern' series of books (such as *Liquid Life* and *Liquid Times*), including the failures of the nation state, the transition from modernism to postmodernism, the ascendancy of consumerism, insecurity and terrorism, and more. Here, however Mr. Bauman centers the discussion on ethics, demonstrating how humanity's grand sociological experiments with fascism, communism and neoliberalism have failed to deliver on the promise of utopia on earth. In fact, Mr. Bauman's description of today's postmodern culture of extreme individuality, transience and forgetting seems to mock the idea that civilization might serve a higher purpose other than to mediate the smooth functioning of the market system and the unfettered pursuit of material wealth. Mr. Bauman's astute analysis makes clear that the false sense of security purchased through military might has deprived the nation-state of the resources it desperately needs to eradicate the inequality that is at loggerheads with building a just and sustainable future for all. Nonetheless, Mr. Bauman contends that an uniquely European consciousness that stresses the ethics of tolerance and inclusiveness is key to forming a more humane community. Mr. Bauman cites the continent's spontaneous mass public uprising in opposition to the Iraq War as evidence that a more ethical society is possible, even if we cannot imagine what the institutional or organizational structure for such a world might look like at the present. I give this outstanding book the highest possible rating and recommend it to everyone. 13 of 17 people found the following review helpful. light at the end of the tunnel

By A. P. Oele In this book Zygmunt Bauman proves again to have a outstretched antenna for change. He also proves to be highly knowledgeable regarding the filosofical and historical aspects in his search for the ethical consequences of globalisation and consemerism. A lot of writers known for their deep insights in the human condition are quoted. It does not make for easy reading. The writer wants his conclusions to be solidly rooted in the work of present and past key experts on change. That leads to a comprehensive review of the theses on social change and makes it rewarding reading. Main conclusions are: globalisation is irreversible; consuming habits prevail and makes societal connections liquid and temporal; the nation state is left behind and can no longer presen a setting for ethical behavior; a transnational europe-like arrangement may be a model for an new framework for ethics, the more so if this ensures a social economical policy of the scandinavian type. The last conclusion rests more on hope than on facts but is nevertheless positive enough to keep it in mind. Anyway I enjoyed meeting Bauman again in this book and recognised in him the sociologist going further than describing trends and giving warnings. Adriaan Oele.

Bauman urges us to think in new ways about a newly flexible, newly challenging modern world. In an era of routine travel, where most people circulate widely, the inherited beliefs that aid our thinking about the world have become an obstacle. He challenges members of the "knowledge class" to overcome their estrangement from the rest of society.

From Booklist Immanuel Kant extrapolated the trajectory of eighteenth-century history into a future that would demand a universal morality. That future, Bauman announces, has now arrived. But serious thinkers must proceed with the Kantian project in circumstances more difficult than the German philosopher could ever have anticipated, as traditional, locally grounded absolutes dissolve in the flux of twenty-first-century lifestyle consumerism. Tragically, some uprooted groups have tried to recreate the reassuring ethical order of a monolithic community, even when doing so has meant unleashing genocidal violence against outsiders (as in Cambodia, Rwanda, and Kosovo). Doubtful that an American superpower that excels only in military technology will offer better cultural options, Bauman adumbrates a hopeful orientation inspired by the transnational aspirations of Europeans. These aspirations are already restraining profit-seeking global capitalism while advancing a progressive code of planetary responsibility. Some readers may suspect that the very different universalism of a resurgent Islam deserves more attention than it receives, but Bauman poses questions deserving attention from anyone trying to understand our rapidly globalizing society. --Bryce Christensen Zygmunt Bauman's voice is as exemplary as it is powerful. He writes not only in Max Weber's spirit, but also in that of Max Horkheimer and Theodor Adorno, as well as Hannah Arendt and Norbert Elias. This is a very important collection by one of the leading thinkers of our time. (Ron Eyeran, Yale University) This thoughtful and elegant little book by one of the world's most humble but distinguished intellectuals conveys a sense that the wisdom of a lifetime is being distilled here in a pithy but above all in a usable form. (Paul Gilroy, London School of Economics) About the Author Zygmunt Bauman was Emeritus Professor of Sociology at the University of Leeds and the author of many books.