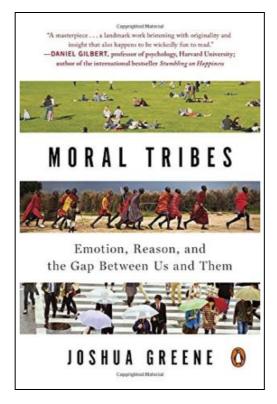
# Moral Tribes Emotion, Reason, and the Gap Between Us and Them



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## Reviews

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(Pinkie O'Hara)

#### MORAL TRIBES EMOTION, REASON, AND THE GAP BETWEEN US AND THEM



Penguin Books. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 432 pages. Dimensions: 0.0in. x 0.0in. x 0.0in. The Boston Globe Surprising and remarkable Toggling between big ideas, technical details, and his personal intellectual journey, Greene writes a thesis suitable to both airplane reading and PhD seminars. Our brains were designed for tribal life, for getting along with a select group of others (Us) and for fighting off everyone else (Them). But modern times have forced the worlds tribes into a shared space, resulting in epic clashes of values along with unprecedented opportunities. As the world shrinks, the moral lines that divide us become more salient and more puzzling. We fight over everything from tax codes to gay marriage to global warming, and we wonder where, if at all, we can find our common ground. A grand synthesis of neuroscience, psychology, and philosophy, Moral Tribes reveals the underlying causes of modern conflict and lights the way forward. Greene compares the human brain to a dual-mode camera, with point-and-shoot automatic settings (portrait, landscape) as well as a manual mode. Our point-and-shoot settings are our emotionsefficient, automated programs honed by evolution, culture, and personal experience. The brains manual mode is its capacity for deliberate reasoning, which makes our thinking flexible. Point-and-shoot emotions make us social animals, turning Me into Us. But they also make us tribal animals, turning Us against Them. Our tribal emotions make us fightsometimes with bombs, sometimes with wordsoften with life-and-death stakes. An award-winning teacher and scientist, Greene directs Harvard Universitys Moral Cognition Lab, which uses cutting-edge neuroscience and cognitive techniques to understand how people really make moral decisions. Combining insights from the lab with lessons from decades of social science and centuries of philosophy, the great question of Moral Tribes is this: How can we get along with Them when what they...

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