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## CHAPTER 9 | Individualism

According to politicians, the increased individualisation of humanity is said to be the cause of a large number of social problems. The feeling of insecurity and the alleged aggression on the streets are attributed to this development. This is nonsense. Studies show just the opposite. The connection is only made because individualism is an undesirable development from the point of view of the interests of the state. In the long run, all individuals can no longer be effectively controlled. This is in contrast to a more collectively organized society, such as the Netherlands, which experienced the 'Pillarization' before and after the Second World War. In that case, the leaders of the group ensured control over the members of its religious, social community. Individualism is a logical development of human life here on earth. It leads us to a new civilization. From human nature, in the sense of the combination of human characteristics, a human being can only live his own life. I have mentioned this before. Every individual gives substance to his life by thinking, feeling and acting. Thinking is not an automatic process. It is based on a choice, a decision. This is also called free will. No human being can force another person to make the choice or take over that process from him. No one can successfully lead another person's life. Only that person can do that. Therefore, the best thing a person can do for another person is not to prevent him from enjoying the fruits of his thoughts and actions, nor to protect him from the negative consequences of his actions. Only in this way does a person learn to live in freedom and realize his own happiness and well-being. This also means that a person has only one responsibility: that of himself. A person can then choose to live in dependence on others or to strive for independence. It is not appropriate to judge each person's individual choice. The choice a person makes is - you may assume - inspired by his pursuit of personal happiness and well-being. Everyone tries to achieve this in their own way. Individualism finds its limit in the threat or exercise of coercion and violence towards another person. The non-aggression principle. Life is given to man on the basis of free will to make the best of it as he sees fit, not to that of others. In order to become a free and sovereign being. That life and the choices that underlie it, as well as the experiences that it provides, should therefore be respected by others. Just as we respect the choices they make. This explains why a human society cannot be socially or economically engineered. Man's free will hinders that.