

Amish Values

Godliness

Obligations to God transcend all others and impinge upon most aspects of daily life

Humility

Amish society stresses *Demut* or humility; working to call attention to oneself is thought to be sinful or *Hochmut*

Simplicity

Amish lifestyles praise the traditional ways of doing things; simplicity is valued

Work Ethic

Working hard especially in physical labor is a terminal value and is recognized as a way of honoring God

Pacifism

Peaceful coexistence is a moral and religious obligation of all Amish at all times; participation in war is forbidden

Communalism

A foremost Amish value is to devote one's life to the welfare of the church-community---the *Gemeinde* over and above individual interests

Mainstream Values

Secularization

Obligations to God are compartmentalized; most day to day decisions are governed without concern for religious dictates

Pride

Mainstream society stresses and rewards individual achievement; being number one is always sought after

Progress

Mainstream culture praises "new and improved" ways of doing things; the motto of progress through science rules

Leisure Ethic

Work has become more of an instrumental value that will ultimately enable persons to retire from the workforce and pursue leisure

Militarism

War is viewed as justifiable and legitimate under a variety of political circumstances; much tax money is devoted to military purposes

Individualism

Individual rights are sanctified; the individual's success is measured in terms of personal achievements as opposed to how much it contributes to the community