

Ethics of Magic

by Silverwolf

First to understand the ethics of magic we must first understand magic. So what

is magic? In lesson two Correllian Wicca 1st degree Magic is defined as the art

of consciously focusing and controlling this-all pervasive energy. Though focused will and effort we use the universal energy to effect things around us.

As energy reacts to thought and emotion it can be used to control or influence it. (Energy also reacts to certain physical stimuli, but we deal less with that aspect than with thought and emotion. (Yoga is an excellent forum to study the

influence of physical stimuli upon energy.) I Think now would be a good time to

add that it most be understood that we do not do this focusing and directing of energy with our everyday ordinary level of our conscious mind. If we were everyone would be doing it but rather we shift our consciousness to that of our higher self. We use tools such as candles; scents, site and sound to help made this shift. It does however take practice to do this. Most would say that magic is but a small part of Wiccan faith and in a sense this is true. In a broader sense every thing in Wicca is magic. Wicca is about transformation, creation and

spiritual growth, and that after all is what magic is all about. So what is magic and how does it work? Magic is energy. Energy is in all things. Energy is

the unseen force that holds all things together. From the smallest grain of sand

to the mountains that reach to the heavens themselves. Energy holds the very universe together. The working of magic then is simply the raising up and focusing and releasing of that energy. That being said how does magic work?

There are some vary impotence things to keep in mind when working magic:

1.)

Timing the phases of the moon are important to the proper working of magic, we

can use the phases of the moon to help us in working magic. The time from the new moon through the first quarter to the full moon is called the waxing

moon.

The time from the full moon to the last quarter is know as the wanting moon. When the moon is growing in size it is waxing, and when it is getting smaller it is wanting. The full moon in my view is the most powerful time. Constructive magic is best done when the moon is in or during the waxing cycle. Destructive magic is best done on wanting moon. That being said magic used for success, protection, health, and fertility would be best done on waxing moons. And spells

such as binding should be done on the wanting moon. There is one more moon that

magic should never be done on in my view and that is what is called a black moon. Other thing to take into account is feeling. You must really want whatever

you are working for to really happen. You must want this with all your being. See in done not being done. Just a note here the feeling you put into magic is a vary powerful thing so working magic for someone else would not have as much

feeling want or desire in it or about it then magic work you are doing for ones self. For that simple reason the other person could can and will put a lot more feeling into it then you could. You can also use what is called boosters to raise even more power like signing and chanting, dancing Exeter. . It should also be said that you should cleanse yourself before working magic. By this I mean the body and well as the inner or higher self this can be done by bathing in a ritual salt bath this cleanse the body. And by fasting for 24hrs before the working of magic this cleansing of you inner or higher self some call this grounding will help to keep your aura strong and clean so to speck for spell work. Your aura is the field of spiritual energy around the body. The size shape

color and or colors of the aura can tell you a lot about a persons spiritual state and others about yours. So all this being said and now that we understand

what magic is and how it is used we can now look and the laws that govern it. There is certain laws so to speck that all people in the Wiccan faith work there magic by and that is Do what thee will but harm none. The other is the law of three fold. Let us take a look at the first of these. What does this mean? In a nutshell it means that before you work magic you should ask yourself am I harming anything by working this spell. If the answer is yes then, you should not work the spell. Because what ever you do returns to you three fold or otherwise known as karma. By this I don't mean that if as a result of your actions someone breaks there leg that you will break your leg three times I

mean

that something that is three times as bad could happen. That being said if you work positive magic your will be rewarded with something three times as positive. If you do a spell that is harmful in some way then you are also harming yourself, Because you will get back three times the negativity that you

sent out. This is why the first law of magic, Do what you will but harm none is so important. This also means don't harm your self. Before working magic make

sure that you are doing it for the right reasons. In Wicca we learn how to use the power (energy) that is percent in all things and focus that energy to a want or need. This is a great responsibility and should not be misused. Also magic should also always be used for a greater good. . If you're are doing magic for lust or greed or to gain personal power or out of revenge then this would in my

view would not be an ethical use of magic. There are times however that negative

magic most be done for a greater good like a binding spell .If someone is harming themselves or others by there actions, and you do a binding spell. Binding them from doing harm to them selves or to others. Then this would be an

ethical use of magic in my view. The reason for this view, is that this is ethical in this case, because as it says do what thee will but harm none, and as says above this also includes not harming your self. By doing and there by casting a binding spell in this case you are helping the said person and or persons. By preventing them from doing any future harm to themselves or others.

You are also keeping in the ethic of harm none because the harm for lack of a better word at this time is for a greater good .You are also helping the said person and or persons karma and yours by doing this. Also you should release the

left over energy and ground your self after all your spell work because sometimes energy that is let behind can cause a big build up and from time to time cause problems later on.

In closing I would just like to say that you should never in my view work magic

unless you truly and totally under what you are doing as well as how to prepare

your self and your tools. Take you time in perpetration and leave no stone

unturned. I say this for reason my reason is simply this. When you deal with magic you are dealing with the very force that hold all things as they are and as we know them together. Working magic and not understanding and respecting it

and the powers involved can come back to bite you so to speak. One more note,

Please Do what thee will and harm none doing it. The ethics of magic in a nutshell is say you're out hunting game. Magic is a bullet and Wicca is the gun if you use that bullet to fall your game then that is a good thing it is part of the greater circle of things. Life death and rebirth. Things have to be that way to be in balance and this type of magic would be ethical and in my view and within the first law. But say you turn that gun on your fellow and or you're self that would not be ethical and they're by breaking the first law of magic. If you're not a hunter then say you see a flower that is coming up from the ground. You in some way help it to grow and to blossom then this would be ethical, after all that is a symbol of the great circle of life death and rebirth and all is in balance the way it should be. But if you stomped on it just because you didn't like it there or just for something to do then this would not be ethical. I hope you understand what I mean. I believe you do.

We

have all the tools we need to make the wise choose. I hope for our sake we are smart enough to make the wise one.

I would now like to state why I submitted this essay to the Pagan Pride essay contest, well in a nut shell the law so to speak of do what you will but harm none is a law that most if not all pagans live by not just in there craft life. But also in their day to day lives. They are they are the most caring giving understanding people I know. They I feel because the text stated above are also

the most ethical people there are. This makes me vary proud to be pagan and to

know pagan people and have them in my life. I just hope they are as proud to be

pagan as I and to know me as well.

Blessed Be, Silverwolf

My sources were:

Correllian Wicca 1st degree lesson 2

The complete book of witchcraft by Raymond Buckland, lesson 2 and 11 My own

personal Book of shadows