

# Risk Taking in Life

By

Tristan Barnett

Most religions (at least the three Abrahamic religions) follow a range of austerity processes, where they abstain from material sense gratification in order to advance “spiritually”. By doing so they hope to obtain eternal life in happiness in the afterlife such as “heaven” rather than going to a place such as “hell”. So essentially these austerity processes could be considered as levels of risk. In Buddhism, they don’t smoke, don’t gamble, don’t drink alcohol, don’t eat meat, no illicit sex, don’t accumulate wealth and women cover up (they don’t expose their bodies). In Islam, they don’t smoke, don’t gamble, don’t drink alcohol, women cover up, their meat is halal, no illicit sex and they give about 2.5% of their total income and wealth away to charity (they don’t accumulate wealth). In Christianity, they don’t smoke, don’t gamble, don’t drink alcohol (or very minimal), no illicit sex and are generally charitable (they don’t accumulate wealth). However, they still eat meat which is going against the sixth commandment “Thou shalt not kill” and the women tend to “expose” their bodies. In Judaism, they tend not to smoke, eat kosher, the women cover up and no illicit sex. However, even though the meat is kosher they are still not following their sixth commandment “Thou shalt not kill”. Further, they tend to gamble, drink a lot of alcohol and accumulate wealth. In the Krishna Consciousness movement (known as Hare Krishna’s), they don’t smoke, don’t gamble, don’t drink alcohol, no illicit sex, don’t eat meat, women cover up and no accumulation of wealth. Even further, they don’t eat egg, no onion or garlic (which is known to affect the mind) and no intoxicants including caffeine. This is perfection in life.