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MANAGING SUB-CULTURES

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ABSTRACT

The great liberal democracies that marked the latter half of the twentieth century (United States, United Kingdom, etc.) were built upon foundations. Those include their constitutions, and their intellectual forbearers, like Magna Carta, and spiritual works like the Bible.

Recalling the current battlefield of literalists vs. interpretationalists in Biblical and Constitutional scholarship (Bork, Robert, 2002), is there a corresponding conflict among the sub-cultures of a nation that allow a managed form of civil engagement, without devolution into internecine warfare? Has the cultural strength of the liberal democracy permitted an organic form of sub-culture warfare, in which the mother culture may exist above the fray, as sub-cultures war with one another in a type of perpetual motion that promotes fundamental rights like life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness?