

agency and law, LeGrand Baker

Civil and criminal law is designed to protect people from other people who would hurt them. That works if the legal system works. But law can never cause people to do good. When one group of people, who define the outward forms of their goodness as the only possible outward forms, and try to take away other's agency by imposing those forms upon them, then the whole nature of goodness collapses. No form of goodness can take away the agency of others, when it tries, it is no longer good.