

## Status of Moral Standards

### Discoverable

### Invented

#### Absolutely

#### Contextual

#### Socially

#### Personally

Moral standards are universally binding on all people in all places and under all circumstances.  
E.g., 10 Commandments  
Kantian Duties

Moral standards must be determined with reference to or take into account the specific situation in which people act.

Moral 'standards' express collective preferences and tastes of some community (i.e., those who have the power to shape tastes and preferences).  
"When in Rome you should do as the Romans do."

Moral statements merely express the preferences and tastes of an individual at a particular moment (emotivism). In this case there are no moral standards. I can do what I feel like doing.

**Note:** Moral standards are not adequately divided into "objective" and "subjective," since the former only includes absolute standards and the latter properly includes personally invented standards.