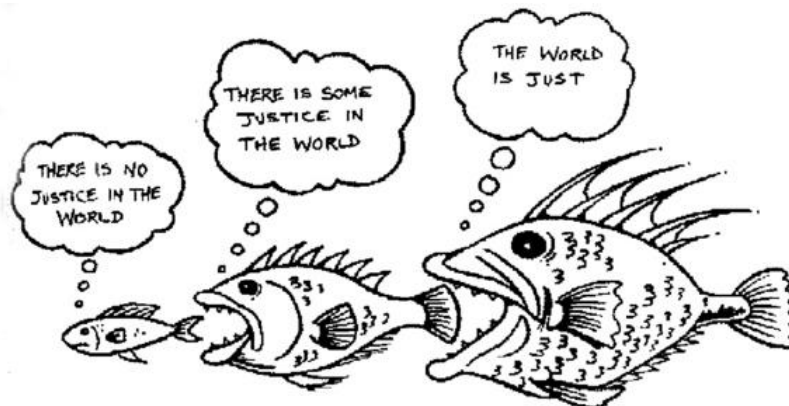


## THE JUST WORLD FALLACY

Ultimately, the Just World hypothesis functions as a cognitive fallacy because the real world does not guarantee proportional moral outcomes. As a [Wikipedia](#) article on the topic highlights, events are frequently driven by chance, luck, systemic inequality, and external circumstances rather than a universal system of cosmic justice. Experts suggest that recognizing this bias is a critical step in overcoming prejudice, minimizing victim-blaming, and cultivating true compassion.

People who have a strong tendency to believe in a just world also tend to be more religious, more authoritarian, more conservative, more likely to admire political leaders and existing social institutions, and more likely to have negative attitudes toward underprivileged groups.

The opposite of the just-world fallacy is the position that nobody ever deserves anything that happens to them, for good or ill.



### To Do's and Don't Do's

- Response oriented thinking rather than Cause oriented thinking
- Give up the "Blame Game"
- Give up the "Just World" hypothesis
- Reframe the situation
- Don't ignore emotions but also don't emphasize them

### Just-World Phenomenon

*Our tendency to believe that our bad deeds today lead to unpleasant events tomorrow*

A police officer is shown questioning a woman. The officer asks, "What did the burglar steal?" and the woman replies, "My 60-inch smart TV." The officer then asks, "What makes you think you can own fancy things and not have them stolen?"

**We tend to blame the victim**

A person is shown being hit by a wheel. The text says, "What goes around comes around" and "It came back and bit him in the ass".