

**The AHS is an association of atheist, humanist and secular student societies facilitated and supported by the British Humanist Association.**

Its vision is to see a thriving atheist, humanist or secular student society in every institute of Higher Education in the UK and Republic of Ireland, networked together, with a shared voice in public life, whose members can contribute to and be part of the wider national and international movement. As a means of achieving its vision the AHS aims to build, support and represent atheist, humanist and secular student societies, facilitate communication between them, and encourage joint actions and ensure that their members have opportunities to be part of the wider national and international movement.

You can find out more at [www.ahsstudents.org.uk](http://www.ahsstudents.org.uk).



National Federation  
of Atheist Humanist  
& Secular Student  
Societies

# What is...

## **AGNOSTICISM?**

**A rough guide from the**



## Agnosticism is the view that there may or may not be a god, or gods.

But it is definitely not true to say that all agnostics believe the same thing. If you've never considered the question before, it could be said that you are agnostic, because you haven't yet formed a view and **neither believe nor disbelieve in a god**. However there are many people who have devoted their lives to the issue and have concluded that agnosticism is the only suitable position for them:

Agnostics may believe that there is **not yet enough evidence** either for or against the existence of God, or they may argue that **the God-question is fundamentally unanswerable**, while others would say that no answer can be reached until a sufficient definition of "God" is presented.

Some might say that agnosticism is "sitting on the fence" but many agnostics would counter that it is an unbiased position which **makes no assumptions** and allows them to fairly weigh all the arguments for and against the existence of God.

*"Agnosticism, in fact, is not a creed, but **a method**, the essence of which lies in the rigorous application of a single principle ... Positively the principle may be expressed: In matters of the intellect, **follow your reason as far as it will take you**, without regard to any other consideration. And negatively: In matters of the intellect **do not pretend that conclusions are certain** which are not demonstrated or demonstrable."*

**-Thomas Henry Huxley**

