

**January 28, 2018**

### **Common View of Culture**

(taken from James Davison Hunter)

Culture as “values”

Charles Colson: “A worldview is the sum total of our beliefs about the world, the ‘big picture’ that directs our daily decisions and actions.”

Bad ideas lead to bad choices

How to change culture from this view:

1. Be good citizens
2. Carry out civic duty in all walks of life
3. Be engaged in politics
4. The Church must act as the conscience of the society

The basic idea is that culture changes when people change.

This is a bottom up approach.

### **Critique of the Common View**

Culture is more complicated than the “values” approach allows.

The “try harder fallacy”

Ideas may move history, but not all ideas have equal weight

Culture is embedded in institutions and structures of power

Renewal of hearts and minds are good things. They are just not that effective in changing culture.