**Key Terms**

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Chapter 2: Moral Relativism

**"making anything right" objection to relativism** Rejects relativism as it can make anything morally right including horrific evils.

**female genital mutilation (FGM)** A culturally based practice in which the woman’s clitoris is removed to reduce the woman’s sexual pleasure and thus to help ensure her faithfulness; also called female circumcision.

**moral progress objection to relativism** Rejects relativism as it implies that moral progress can make no sense.

**moral reformers** Persons who, on moral grounds, work to change some of their own society’s accepted beliefs and practices.

**moral reformers objection to relativism** Rejects relativism as it judges moral reformers to be morally evil.

**objectivism** Maintains that there is one universal moral standard that holds for all cultures, social groups, and persons regardless of their particular moral beliefs or practices.

**pluralistic relativism** David Wong’s version of relativism, which maintains that different societies can have different but equally valid moral standards, although all share a common moral core.

**relativism (cultural)** Maintains that there is no universal objective moral standard but that there can be different moral standards for different social groups.

**social groups objection to relativism** Rejects relativism as it cannot determine which moralityholds for persons living in modern pluralistic societies.

**subjectivism** Maintains that there is no universal objective moral standard but that there can be different moral standards for different persons.

**tolerance** A moral value that calls upon us to respect the beliefs and practices of others but doesn’t preclude expressing disagreement or even taking action in certain cases.