3.5.2 Modern Secular Humanism

Although a case can be made that secular humanism is not a religion, it certainly can be considered a heresy or cult based on the treatment in Section 3.3 above [emphasis added]. Kirban elucidates that modern secular humanism started in "Renaissance Italy (about 1400 AD)." It was during this time that the Renaissance writers elevated humanity to a place above God. They "made a cult of man's human powers" and glorified them above the God who created humanity and gave those powers and abilities. During this period, "the works of Plato, Homer, Horace and Cicero and also Dante's Divine Comedy which he wrote in 1300" were elevated to the status of being on the same level as the Bible (Kirban 1980:113). Also, according to Kirban, the definition of secular humanism and its five basic beliefs follow:

Humanism is a system of thought or action that holds that man is capable of self-fulfillment, peace on earth, and right ethical conduct without recourse to God. Humanism therefore is the religion which deifies man and dethrones God. . . . Humanism boasts of five basic beliefs in their doctrine:

- 1. The Irrelevance of Deity . . .
- 2. The Supremacy of "Human Reason" . . .
- 3. The Inevitability of Progress . . .
- 4. Science, The Guide to Progress . . .
- 5. The Self-Sufficiency of Man. . . . (Kirban 1980:107, 109, and 113).

As addressed above in Section 3.3, secular humanism denies all of the central core doctrines of Christian orthodoxy, and therefore must be considered a heresy [emphasis added].

Modern secular humanism, accompanied with various beliefs in secular socialism, have invaded every corner of the world and infiltrated every bastion of Christendom since its inception around 1400. On the other hand, even capitalism or democracy when pushed to its extreme and coupled with a strong belief in secular humanism, will appear to accomplish the same purposes. This rise of modern witchcraft and modern secular humanism then gave birth to

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one of the first modern cult-based secret orders or societies, which claimed to be "guardians of hidden knowledge," the Rosicrucians.