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Course: English 202: Global Literature II : OA

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Date: January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Week Two Discussion Voltaire

*Candide* by Voltaire tries to demonstrate how people can use the power of money to bribe themselves way out or escape most situations. Although Candide is a rich man, corruption and dishonesty make him very unhappy. Furthermore, the novel tries to show how money can make one attract false friends. The book also demonstrates the hypocrisy of religion (Voltaire 33). Hypocritical religious leaders engage in a series of corruption and evil acts. A Catholic priest keeps a mistress. Jesuit Colonel engages in homosexuality (Voltaire 50). Furthermore, the novel shows how religious leaders today participate in inhuman acts and immorality, including oppressing the power to attract more wealth.

### Work Cited

Voltaire. *Candide*. 1759.

**Week Two Discussion Moliere**

Tartuffe by Moliere has done an excellent job of showing how people use hypocrisy to attract and gain power. Most political leaders behave like Tartuffe, who pretends to be sincere and pious when interacting with his followers (Molière et al. 75). They try to act morally in public but frequently engage in corruption. Elmire and Tartuffe front themselves as dutiful and patient. Such tactics allow leaders to grab more power legally and illegally without worrying how their actions might impact ordinary citizens by driving them deeper into poverty. Therefore, followers believed that these characters were nothing but saints.

**Work Cited**

Molière Jean-Baptiste Poquelin, et al. *Tartuffe*. Oberon Books, 2012.