

Dissent vs. Disbelief

Dissent is
disagreement;
disbelief is
disengagement.

Dissent asks
a question;
disbelief takes
a stand.

Suspension of assent
does not mean
abandoning belief.

Some dissent
because of their
strong belief;
others assent,
but their belief
is weak.

Some dissent
to strengthen
their belief;
others assent
without deepening
their believing.

The arena of dissent
is the mind;
the area of disbelief
is the heart.

The dissenter
still belongs;
the disbeliever
has long gone.

Responsible dissent
could lead to
deeper belief;
uncritical assent
may mask
latent disbelief.

The ideal is:
to dissent
without dissension
and to assent
without dissembling.

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