

## 7.2

# Benefits of Using Views

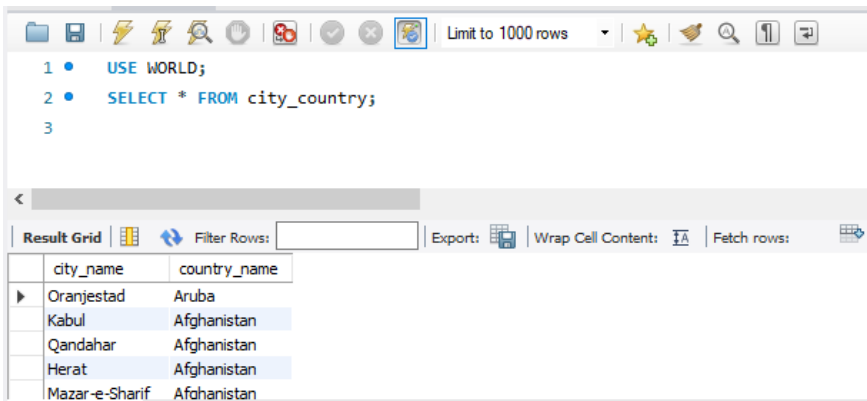
### Benefits of Using Views

- **Design Flexibility:** By using a view instead of a query in an application, it is easier to make changes to the underlying table structure.
- **Improved Security:** By using a view to return data from tables instead of a SELECT, you can hide the WHERE clause or other columns to which you do not want the user to have access.
- **Query Simplification:** You can write simple select statements against views, which handle complex queries and joins.

*Code Sample:*

```
USE WORLD;  
CREATE VIEW city_country AS  
SELECT ci.name AS city_name, co.name AS country_name  
FROM city ci  
      JOIN country co  
      ON ci.CountryCode = co.Code;
```

*Results by selecting from the city\_country view:*



## CREATE VIEW city\_country AS

- Create a new VIEW object and give it the name city\_country
- The AS statement precedes the query that will be assigned to the VIEW

## SELECT ci.name AS city\_name, co.name AS country\_name

- Only the columns defined in the SELECT statement will be available to the VIEW
- It is a good idea to provide a column alias in the select because the VIEW will not have access to the underlying table structure.

## FROM city ci

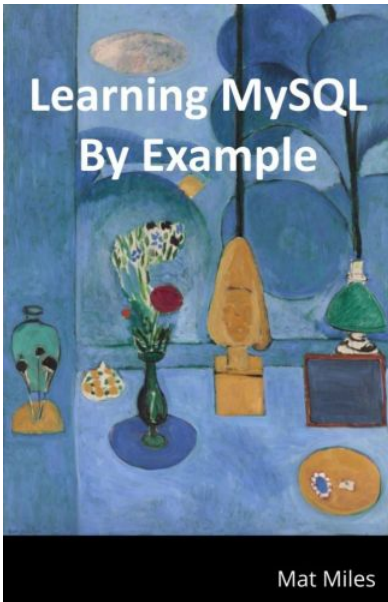
## JOIN country co

## ON ci.CountryCode = co.Code;

- The JOIN statement of the SELECT.
- Once you have created a VIEW, you can run SQL statements using the VIEW as if it were a table.
- By creating a VIEW, we can run selects that retrieve data from

multiple tables without having to re-code a join.

- Notice how the `SELECT *` retrieves only the rows defined in the `SELECT` statement used in the `VIEW` creation.
- If you want to drop a `VIEW`, we can run the `DROP VIEW` statement
- If you want to modify an existing view you can use the statement `CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW`. That way you do not have to run a `DROP VIEW` statement and then a `CREATE VIEW` statement.



Miles, M. (2021). *Learning MySQL By Example*. EdTech Books. [https://edtechbooks.org/learning\\_mysql](https://edtechbooks.org/learning_mysql)