

# Toward A Better Understanding of Epicurean Justice And Injustice (With Examples of "Just" and "Unjust")

Post by "Don" of March 24, 2021 at 11:38 PM

## [Quote from Cassius](#)

So in the it is one of those dangerous aspects of life that some people have no conscience and are killers, just like wolves and lions. We in civil society will organize force to deal with them and if done rationally can hope to be successful most of the time

Okay, I can get behind this part. We agree to contracts among members of a society to neither harm nor be harmed. Some people decide to not abide by that contract - like wild animals with whom we have no contract. There are people in the society to enforce the contract for the security of those who have agreed to abide by it. That all hangs together, and it's part of the next two KDs, too, if I remember.

But KD 34 & 35 rely on someone being afraid of consequences of their actions to not go against the contract?

Wait... ....

Actually, the way I just stated that right there makes more sense to me, especially from an Epicurean perspective. If I commit an unjust act - defined as an act in opposition to the social contract - my life will be more unpleasant if I'm caught. Therefore, I do my best to not commit unjust acts. I act prudently and justly with regard to my fellow citizens. This leads to a more pleasant life.

Is this what Epicurus is implying here in 34 & 35????