

Do Pigs Value Katastematic Pleasure? (Summer 2022 K / K Discussion)

Post by "Kalosyni" of July 17, 2022 at 9:41 AM

[Quote from reneliza](#)

The one thing I do agree with the author on, is that the "neutral" affect, if it exists at all, need not be experienced neutrally. My thoughts are that "neutral" states are valenced by our perspective (not necessarily only fleeting momentary moods), which is why an Epicurean can experience hedonic pleasure from them,

Thank you [reneliza](#), I started reading the article and it looks good, and brings up some important ideas. Also, as I get older I am noticing that I now have "neutral" feelings with regard to some things which in the past used to create a tremendous positive affect. And reading this article may help me understand, as well as feel okay about that neutrality.

Here is an excerpt about how the author of the article defines neutral affect.

"We define **neutral affect** as *feeling* indifferent, nothing in particular, and a lack of preference one way or the other. Note, when we use the term "indifferent," we do not use it to indicate disliking something because that would imply a negative rather than a neutral reaction. It also is important to keep in mind that neutral affect could, theoretically, co-occur with positive and/or negative affect."

".....Additionally, it is important to point out that neutral affect is distinct from other nonvalenced states, such as feeling numb or shocked."

I especially like the phrase: "a lack of preference one way or the other" as a way to define neutrality.