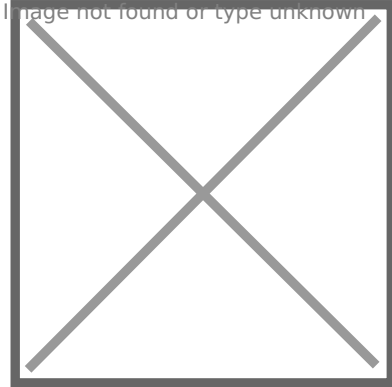


# Philodemus - On Frank Speech

Post by "Don" of September 16, 2023 at 10:40 PM

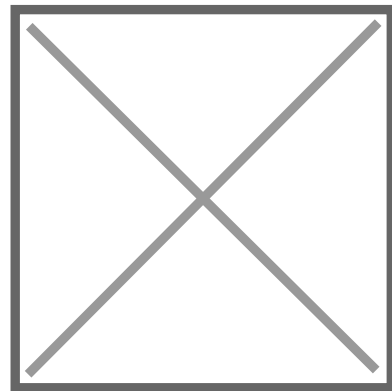
See also



[Parrhesia in Cassius Dio \[in C.H. Lange and J.M. Madsen \(eds\), Cassius Dio - Greek Intellectual and Roman Politician \(Brill's Historiography of Rome and its empire Series 1\), 2016\]](http://www.brill.com/products/book/cassius-dio)

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[Thoreau, Parrhesia, and the Socratic Tradition of Philosophy](http://www.academia.edu)

Most objections against Henry Thoreau aim at his &quot;unfriendly&quot; provocations. In this article, I argue that we need to situate his exhortative style in...

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Abstract Most objections against Henry Thoreau aim at his "unfriendly" provocations. In this article, I argue that we need to situate his exhortative style in the context of practicing parrhesia or the bold expression of truth in the Socratic tradition of philosophy. Philosophical parrhesia can be defined as the practice of speaking the truth with an eye to bringing home the realization that one must change one's life. The transformation Thoreau has in mind is hinged upon acquiring the practical knowledge of cultivating the senses through what he calls "excursion." This, I argue, is his key contribution to the said tradition.