

# Discussion on Philodemus Fragments

Post by “Kalosyni” of February 19, 2024 at 7:53 AM

This brings up a question of are these unreliable sources still out in publication (which ones are they) and what is a trusted source.

Quote

Nonetheless, numerous editions of Philodemus' works, especially early ones, are unreliable. Many were not based on a reading of the papyri themselves, but rather on the *disegni*, which are frequently wrong, and this led editors to be bolder about changing the texts presented in these copies, filling in gaps, and interpreting the results than they might have been had they read the papyri instead. In many such cases, better reading of the papyrus has shown that the text ran very differently indeed from the conjectures that have commonly served as the basis of reconstructions of the views of Philodemus and others. One common problem has been the mistaking of what turns out to be a citation of an opponent for something Philodemus himself maintains (and *vice versa*).

[Philodemus \(Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy\)](#)