

Anti-Natalism: The Opposite of Epicureanism

Post by “Adrastus” of October 9, 2025 at 5:12 AM

Anti-Natalism is largely irrelevant to me as I have children. As a Dad who tries and has tried to share the tasks of raising children and with a partner who thinks outside of the cultural box on the solutions to problems of contemporary motherhood, I honestly fail to see many downsides to children as having children has not hindered any area of my life. It has only greatly enhanced it by making the task of philosophy even more urgent and palpable, as well as, allowing me to experience a whole variety of pleasures of the mind and pleasant emotions that I would have otherwise never known.

I suppose there are all sorts of maladies a child may be physically or mentally afflicted with, or the child may not live long or not be set upon by great violence due to environmental or social factors like conflict and disease to not reach an age of understanding for there to have been any form of consolation. One might make a resoundingly anti-natalist argument given the chances of this, though you never quite know what Nature informs the body of unless one were in that situation. But if our pleasant disposition is not overly reliant on notions of anyone and everyone reaching some sort of perfected state, the achievement of all of one's potential and the heights of human attainment, or necessarily having to persist for any particularly long period of time in order for any one life to be worth living; or to come at it from a different direction - to otherwise conquer the fear of the death of others, then you can seek to offer a child the most joyful of times now and not delay in the instruction in right philosophy, while still reasonably preparing a future for the child like one would their own life given their own uncertain fate. Principal Doctrine 19 helps alleviate that sort of fear and provides consolatory salvation, and we should expect nothing less in a sober pursuit of philosophy than to be sobered now and again by correct reasoning.