

# Hypotheticals: Would An Epicurean Hook Himself Up To An "Experience Machine" or a "Pleasure Machine"?

Post by "Cassius" of December 4, 2025 at 7:44 PM

## [Quote from Don](#)

I certainly don't think it's a cut and dried argument for hooking up to the machine (which I don't think you're saying btw!).

Right. I generally see the experience machine hypothetical as geared toward the normal ordinary person to test their views of pleasure. This set of facts focuses more on someone who is in a very difficult situation with no realistic hope of improvement. But it does deepen the question in my view, because once you break down the barrier of "I would \*always\* choose reality no matter how bad it is" then you start to ask questions about what circumstances would justify such a decision.