

# Marriage & children seem less pleasurable today: financial worry, relational problems, high rates of divorce. Are they worth the pain ( tarakhē τάραχή) they entail?

Post by “Elli” of July 3, 2026 at 4:26 AM

Plutarch was not a neutral observer. He was a **priest of the Delphic priesthood**, an ideological guardian of the Platonic and religious establishment. When he could not refute Epicurus philosophically, he resorted to **ad hominem attacks**, moralistic slander, and ideological gossip. He even spread the rumor that Epicurus and Metrodorus “shared” Leontion - a claim found nowhere else in antiquity. It was not history; it was propaganda.

And yet, Plutarch himself preserves one of the most extraordinary acts of Epicurean humanity: during a famine in Athens, **Epicurus distributed beans one by one to his friends**, ensuring that they survived. The irony is striking: the same man who accused the Garden of being a “filthy brothel” records that Epicurus saved human lives with food.

And these were not just any beans. They were the “impure,” “unholy” beans forbidden by Pythagoras - the beans the superstitious feared. 😬 Epicurus acted exactly as a wise man would: beans can be stored for a very long time, and because the superstitious considered them impure, **no one would raid the Garden to steal them**. Epicurus chose a resource that fear and superstition would protect for him. This was not only kindness; it was **strategic survival**. And with this strategy, he saved his friends. 😎

The irony becomes even sharper: according to certain idealist doctrines, it would be “better” to starve than to eat the supposedly impure beans. Epicurus, guided by Nature and the Canon rather than by ideological taboos, used those very beans to preserve life. This contrast shows how detached idealistic prohibitions can become from human reality, while Epicurean philosophy remains grounded, humane, and life-preserving.

Epicurus never swallowed the tricks of ideologues. He observed Nature through the Canon, and from this method his ethics emerged effortlessly -an ethics that remains timeless for as long as **Homo sapiens sapiens** exists.