

What Is An Example of a Natural But Not Necessary Desire?

Post by “Elayne” of March 14, 2021 at 8:37 AM

I consider unnatural desires to be desires for things which do not exist, because everything in nature, whatever has existence, is natural.

Desire for unlimited power, idealistic freedom, absolute beauty, immortality, omniscience -- these are desires for the unreal which cannot ever be satisfied.

Since everything real is by definition natural, I am only left with deciding whether my decision to pursue a desire will likely lead to more pleasure than pain, or not.

If desire for a particular item or experience going unfulfilled will not affect my ability to enjoy life one way or another, then it's obviously not strictly necessary-- but if pursuing it won't cause me more pain than pleasure, it's also not necessary to skip it. I am free to decide based on my preferences.

I think this perspective keeps the focus on both materiality and pleasure rather than introducing extra unnecessary factors.