

# Did Epicurus Advise Marriage or Not? Diogenes Laertius Text Difficulty

Post by "Don" of June 30, 2021 at 6:36 PM

[Quote from A Gardner](#)

The wise man will not marry UNLESS social convention demands it so."

The actual word used is **διατραπήσῃσθαί** "**to turn away from one's purpose.**" (**infinitive future passive**) but this brings more questions. The wise man will not marry unless he turns aside from his purpose. What's the wise man's purpose? Purpose isn't in the word itself but implied in the definition. That's the meaning in the passive sense: <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?do...y%3Ddiatre%2Fpw>