

Dopamine Nation by Dr. Anna Lembke

Post by "Cassius" of January 5, 2022 at 2:23 PM

I do not see myself arguing against what you guys are saying. I see this as an issue similar to use of the term "gods" which does not in American English convey the meaning and definition that Epicurus held to apply to gods.

We cannot use the term "God" without explanation any more than we can use the word "empty" without explanation if we expect people to understand us.

So I see myself as agreeing with your conclusion as long as you are annexing to your conclusion the explanation that you are providing here.

So I would say that "Empty" in American English does not convey the meaning we are wishing to convey. I don't see that you are yet suggesting a short phrase or combination of words that does the job, but that should be the goal, so that the word "empty" does not confuse people just like an unexplained use of the word "gods" confuses people

In both situations, clear speech and meaning requires explanation, just like we cannot throw the original Greek words at Americans and expect them to be understood.