

On Unhealthy Social Media Use / If Epicurus Were Alive Today, Would He Use A Smartphone?

Post by "SimonC" of February 18, 2022 at 4:47 PM

Hi! Perhaps we should be clear what we are talking about.

As was mentioned upthread, this forum can be considered a form of social media. It seems to be ok.

It is possible to imagine many other forms of social media that would be empowering people and helping them to make meaningful connections.

But I think what we are talking about here is the current state of major social networks, in particular facebook but also twitter and others. The catastrophic (CATASTROPHIC) effects these have are in the end due to business incentives. The networks want to have maximum engagement from their users and the best way to do this is to create bubbled-off echo chambers that distorts peoples view of reality, while keeping them anxious and outraged at cartoon caricatures of "the other side". This *is* a problem in the social networks themselves! There is a huge power imbalance between the networks and their users. For this reason I think it is wrong to solely blame the bad content on facebook on its users.