

A Challenge To Epicurean Thinking Grounded in Epistemology and Physics

Post by “Cassius” of March 14, 2022 at 2:16 PM

Yes Eric you're now fully focusing on the epistemology issue, which is where we need to focus here and in your recent question about [what keeps you from fully embracing Epicurean Philosophy](#).

If we can't answer which confidence a child's question such as "There COULD be pink ponies dancing on the other side of the moon, right Dad?"

...then we can't answer anything with confidence at all.

So we need to address questions such as:

1. "Under what circumstances, if any, do we admit as 'possibilities' things for which there is no evidence whatsoever of any kind?"
2. "Under what circumstances, if any, do we admit as 'possibilities' things for which the evidence that is asserted is through reasoning that is consistent within itself, but which cannot be validated through evidence perceptible to the senses?"
3. "Under what circumstances, if any, do we admit as 'possibilities' assertions about which we have no experience whatsoever, neither positive nor negative, either inferential or perceptible?"

We got into this issue to degree in our last podcast (not yet posted) but we didn't make much progress.

My suggested questions are amateurish and need a lot of polishing, but I am convinced that this is a direction we need to explore. The hints in the [principal doctrines](#) and in Philodemus (On Signs) and other places give us a starting point, but what's left to us is not articulated in way that most normal people in 2022 can grasp the direction.