

# Atlantic article about enjoyment vs. pleasure

Post by “reneliza” of May 3, 2022 at 1:18 PM

I have a question on the "all pleasure is good" that seems partially relevant here. I hope I can express it properly. It's less about "every pleasure is good yet not every pleasure would be chosen" and is more about whether a pleasurable sensation in the body is even a pleasure at all if it's not appreciated by the mind.

What about things where the actual experience of the sensation can vary depending on context? There's plenty of things that could fall into this category but one of the most concrete examples I thought of was this chicken processing factory near my parents' home. I would regularly drive past and at first think "Mmmm that smells good," but once I remembered it wasn't a chicken restaurant and was instead basically a chicken factory it turned my stomach and the previously appealing odor became disgusting.

True, I would choose not to engage in the experience altogether, but is that original sensation still "good"? Is masochistic fulfillment "evil"? If the sheer sensations would be painful or pleasurable out of context then how do we classify them (especially as in my example where the context is initially unknown)?

Or is this just unnecessary overanalysis which I do quite enjoy?