

Episode One Hundred Forty-Eight - "Epicurus And His Philosophy" Part 04 - True Opinions And False Opinions About Epicurus

Post by "Cassius" of November 7, 2022 at 7:21 AM

[Seems to me that this is a good summary of the Problem of Universals From Wikipedia :](#)

The **problem of universals** is an ancient question from [metaphysics](#) that has inspired a range of philosophical topics and disputes: Should the [properties](#) an object has in common with other objects, such as color and shape, be considered to [exist](#) beyond those objects? And if a property exists separately from objects, what is the nature of that existence?[1]

The problem of universals relates to various inquiries closely related to metaphysics, [logic](#), and [epistemology](#), as far back as Plato and Aristotle, in efforts to define the mental connections a human makes when they understand a property such as shape or color to be the same in nonidentical objects.[2]

Universals are [qualities](#) or [relations](#) found in two or more entities.[3] As an example, if all cup holders are *circular* in some way, *circularity* may be considered a [universal](#) property of cup holders.[4] Further, if two daughters can be considered *female offspring of Frank*, the qualities of being *female*, *offspring*, and *of Frank*, are universal properties of the two daughters. Many properties can be universal: being human, red, male or female, liquid or solid, big or small, etc. [5]

Philosophers agree that human beings can talk and think about universals, but disagree on whether universals exist in [reality](#) beyond mere thought and speech.