

Perspectives On "Proving" That Pleasure is "The Good"

Post by "Todd" of December 20, 2022 at 6:21 PM

[Quote from Don](#)

[Quote from Todd](#)

Maybe this will be clarifying: In your opinion, is the cradle argument an example of "reasoning"?

I would call it observation, seeing things the way they are.

Sorry to bring this up [Don](#), after you just handed me a solution.

I can't accept the idea that anyone is capable of observing data and understanding it directly. You need a theory to make sense of the data, which requires reasoning. And if you don't think you do, then you *really* do.

Aside from the risks of having a theory and not knowing it, there's also the practical problem that "just observing" doesn't provide any way to discuss, disagree, or improve. You need something to talk about. Unless you disagree on the bare facts of what you actually experienced, the thing you talk about is a theory.

It's maybe beside the point now, but I have a hard time letting this kind of thing slide without remark.