

Was Epicurus Sexually Active?

Post by “Don” of February 24, 2023 at 5:57 AM

As a possible related aside, here's my translation of the characteristics of the sage given in Diogenes Laertius about sexual relationships:

[Quote from Characteristics of the Sage](#)

Sexual Relationships

The wise one will not establish a sexual relationship in a way that is against the law or forbidden by custom. Epicureans generally think that the sage will never succumb to lustful desire or be overwhelmed by sexual passions. According to the school, sexual passion is not sent by any supernatural force. They say that having sex like animals never did anyone any good, and people should be content if it does no harm. Epicurus also said that the wise one will not marry nor raise a family (and talked about the pains involved with that life); however, under certain circumstances, the wise one will forsake these rules and decide to marry.