

# Episode 175 - "Epicurus And His Philosophy" Part 27 - Chapter 12 - The New Hedonism 04

Post by "Don" of May 22, 2023 at 10:05 AM

We mentioned Dr. Lisa Feldman Barrett on the episode. I maintain that the research that Dr. Barrett and researchers like her are doing is directly relevant to a modern understanding of Epicurus's concentration on the feelings and prolepseis. This is a pretty good introduction to her work:

[123 | Lisa Feldman Barrett on Emotions, Actions, and the Brain - Sean Carroll](#)

PS. I thought this from Dr. Barrett strengthens Epicurus's broad definition of pleasure (and pain):

Quote from Dr. Lisa Feldman Barrett

You never have an affectless moment in your life, so you can never be without feeling unless you have a non-neurotypical brain or something is terribly wrong, and so rational moments, moments of rational decision are not moments without feeling, that's just not possible based on the anatomy of how our brains are structured.

PPS. At around 36:23 on that podcast with Sean Carroll, Dr Barrett starts talking about "categories" and "concepts" (specific scientific terminology, not the common meaning.. just listen) and, to me, those ideas sound a LOT like how prolepseis function, at least insofar as I understand prolepseis.. including how Dr Glidden described them. I find this intersection of Epicurean philosophy and neuroscience absolutely fascinating!