

# **Paul Thyry (Baron D'Holbach / Mirabaud) - French / German Sympathizer With Some Epicurean Ideas**

**Post by “Pacatus” of December 20, 2023 at 5:48 PM**

[Cassius](#)

That's a good post, and I generally agree. But -

Just like Epicurus' natural physicalism, a fundamental understanding of how (let alone if) we choose seems basic. Under strict determinism, those who (for example) follow Epicurus and those who follow (say) the Stoics are simply determined to do so - without any actual choice based on study and reflection.

The same for strict randomness: those who are Epicureans and those who are Stoics are just so - randomly (even if they think they have reasonably chosen).

So I do think these are important philosophical questions. (And, as I hope I have made clear, I reject both those polar extremes.)