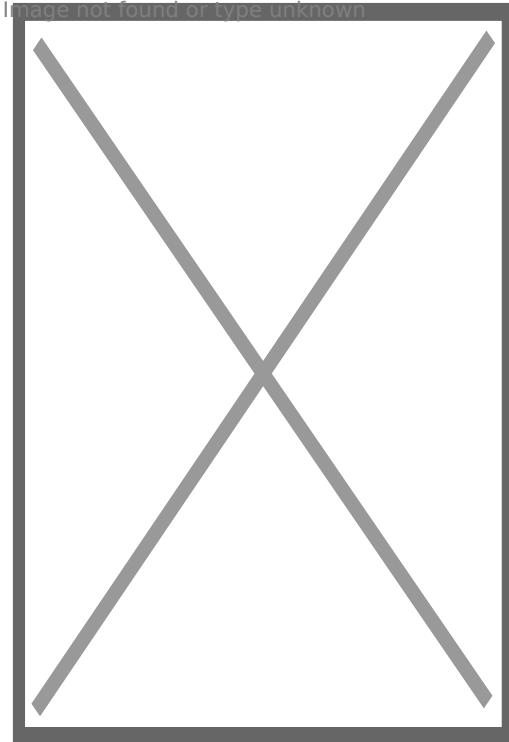


# Can Determinism Be Reconciled With Epicureanism? (Admin Edit - No, But Let's Talk About Why Not)

Post by "Kalosyni" of February 22, 2024 at 2:04 PM

[Don](#) have you read Sam Harris' book "*Free Will*" published in 2012?



[Free Will \(book\) - Wikipedia](#)

en.m.wikipedia.org

I wonder if the only thing new in the Sapolsky book is more detailed science. I did not listen to the audio link, and likely will not because after reading Sam Harris' book, I came to my own conclusion regarding this problem.

As soon as we think or speak the words "there is no free will" then it leads to thoughts and words such as either "I have no control over my life" or "I have very little control over my life" and then that leads to further problems and likely a very negative attitude.

So then I must take for my own awareness and my own belief for *my* self and *my* body that "I have choices and the power to make choices", but other people are outside of my power - and I cannot hold other human beings to "free will" because they are outside of my personal power to make choices.

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/2679-can-determinism-be-reconciled-with-epicureanism-admin-edit-no-but-let-s-talk-abo/?postID=29314#post29314>

But also, we know that some things happen through the power of our choice and some things happen due to chance. Not everything is under our control, but with an optimistic attitude we can go much further with a belief that we have the power to act. And we need to be grounded in reality so as to be clear about the things in the world and in life that we do have the ability to affect and act upon.