

# Is the Epicurean Always Happy?

Post by “Bryan” of May 30, 2024 at 10:37 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

or live like the Cynics

This topic came up in a Wednesday meeting. I said the Cynics had no clear doctrine. Diogenes Laertius does labor to give a short summary of shared Cynic ideas at 6.103. [Link here](#).

More to the point is Philodemus on the Cynics, P.Herc. 339 col. 8 "Human excellence is sidelined, with minimal engagement in deep reflection on such matters. The individuals in question, striving for a radical purity, adopt a lifestyle reminiscent of dogs, utilizing language in a stark and unrefined manner, displaying their masturbation without disguise, and layering their garments. They engage indiscriminately in intimate relationships, readily responding to solicitations and resorting to compulsion... ...advocating for communal sharing of offspring... ...imposing; entangling themselves with their own kin, both maternal and fraternal, without reservation in pursuing intimacy -- even when it escalates to coercion; they pursue intimate interactions with other men."