

# The "meaning crisis" trend. How do you answer it as an Epicurean philosopher?

Post by "Kalosyni" of September 21, 2024 at 1:07 PM

[Quote from Eoghan Gardiner](#)

Figures on social media platforms, such as John Vervaeke

I had to look him up because I don't know anything about him. I found this [summary](#) of some of his ideas.

The idea that the loss of religion is causing a "meaning crisis"...my first reaction is this: "correlation does not equal causation".

Perhaps (and this is just an idea) the "meaning crisis" is that people neither feel a sense of belonging with people within their immediate surroundings AND the people all around them have such vastly differing worldviews (and political views)...which makes the development of a sense of belonging very difficult. So I am thinking it is not so much *what* exactly people believe but that *everyone is believing differently from one another*. (And even family members can hold vastly differing views). Add in to that, that there are so many varying hobbies and interests in life, so that finding someone to talk to with who has the same interests (and who has time to talk) can be difficult.

Feeling a sense of isolation can create a crisis for human beings, as we have evolved within family and community.

[Quote from Eoghan Gardiner](#)

How would you as an Epicurean answer this meaning crisis? Do you even accept the terms of things needing "meaning"? I have my own thoughts which I'll add later.

I think I started a thread on meaning not too long ago (will need to see if I can dig it up). And there are other threads and places that meaning is discussed.

"Things needing meaning"?

-- the meaning of life? (I'd say this question comes from "religious salesmen")

-- feeling like what you do is meaningful? (worthwhile, pleasurable, gives good results in the long-term, brings happiness)

-- making meaning for yourself? (having a method for choosing the things that you do)

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/4060-the-meaning-crisis-trend-how-do-you-answer-it-as-an-epicurean-philosopher/?postID=32273#post32273>

-- that your life matters? (feeling a sense of connection with others, and that they care about you and you care about them)