

# Epicurean Philosophy And Boomer Word Associations ("Feeling No Pain")

Post by "Eikadistes" of October 24, 2024 at 11:37 AM

## [Quote from Cassius](#)

The question is: To what extent does hearing someone say that they are "feeling no pain" automatically invoke an association that what they mean is that they are "stoned?"

I tend to use "stoned" when I want to express feeling "disoriented", closer to an anesthetized state of νάρκη (*nárkē*, from which we derive our word "narcotic"), meaning "torpor" or "numbness". In this regard, anything that numbs pleasure along with pain (I'm thinking of narcotics, not cannabinoids) might be *painless*, but also, *pleasure-less*, and that wordplay doesn't help us enjoy pleasure.

(As a regular user, I express the pleasant relief I feel as being "mellow" or "relaxed", as opposed "stoned" or "baked", which I would reserve for states that resemble drunkenness.)

Slang, however, is fluid, and not only *can* mean anything we want, not only *does* mean multiple things to different people, but *has*, throughout our own history been used in mutually contradictory ways: words like "stoned" have meant everything from stumbling intoxication to a mild buzz, and that difference is the difference between pleasant *relief* versus dangerous *anesthetization*.