

# Comparing Cicero's "De Officiis", Thomas Jefferson's "Social Duties", and Epicurean Philosophy

Post by "Cassius" of July 23, 2025 at 11:40 AM

[Quote from Kalosyni](#)

This: ..."that the legitimate powers of government reach actions only, & not opinions"...

and..."I shall see with sincere satisfaction the progress of those sentiments which tend to restore to man all his natural rights, convinced he has no natural right in opposition to his social duties"

So then the question is what are a person's "social duties"?

And that's going to take us down a long road of discussing "social duties" in general. We actually don't have an existing thread on Cicero's "On Duties," which is one of his most famous works, so I will set that up and probably move that there to see talk about what might be the Epicurean commentary on that.