

Against using the word "corrosive" for the "unnatural/unnecessary" category

Post by "Don" of November 19, 2025 at 8:24 AM

Austin herself admits the less than optimal choice of extravagant and corrosive. See (note 2)...

Chapter 5

1. *Vatican Sayings* 63.
2. I have some misgivings about renaming the natural and unnecessary desires "extravagant" because that might mistakenly suggest that such desires are excessive or inappropriate. I eventually settled on "extravagant" in light of Inwood and Gerson's apt translation of πολυτελεῖας at *Letter to Menoecus* 130 as "extravagance," especially as theirs is the translation I suggest for readers of this volume.

Corrosive desires are corrosive to one's well-being. Take away something corrosive, and one can begin to heal.

She herself admits she couldn't go through the book repeating natural and necessary, natural and unnecessary, not natural nor necessary over and over. I have no problem with her final compromise.