

Neither "ataraxia" nor "not ataraxia", but "Joy as the goal"

Post by "Joshua" of February 25, 2026 at 8:55 PM

I agree with [Cassius](#) on pleasure, but I do want to add something relevant to joy. This comes from Julien Offray de la Mettrie's [Anti-Seneca](#); many here will recognize this from [Charles](#)'s work on the French materialists.

Quote

Nous sommes donc en droit de conclure que, si les joies puisées dans la nature & la raison, sont des crimes, le bonheur des hommes est d'être criminels.

We are therefore entitled to conclude that, if the joys drawn from nature and reason are crimes, then the happiness of men is to be criminal.