

Epicurus vs Kant and Modern Idealism - Introduction

Post by "Cassius" of April 3, 2026 at 11:25 AM

The applicable cliché is hard cases make bad law, but the problem is in the one size fits all law rather than in the cases. If Kant was consistent (and I know nothing about his personal life) he would either follow his categorical imperative or ditch the entire effort.

That's why we have courts of equity and executive clemency and jury nullification, to avoid the harsh consequences of these who seek one size fits all at the expense of individual real people.

Hard cases are very useful for focusing the mind and making sure that we all understand the implications of our positions.

Cicero's dilemma on the Catiline Conspiracy and the phrase "The Constitution is not a suicide pact" are also useful extreme hypotheticals.