

Have PD35 and Vatican Saying 7 been straw-manned?

Post by “wbernys” of May 25, 2026 at 11:38 PM

[Quote from Bryan](#)

Many harmful actions can be committed without much fear if the perpetrator has enough power or protection.

Interesting point, I feel Epicurus would mainly counter this by saying that the power or protection that allows one to commit harmful actions is itself a constant source of stress and fear, they have to constantly be on watch to preserve their wealth and benefactors, they also tainted with restless desires which limit their own happiness along with shame or a "bad conscience".

Corrupt leaders need a ton of bodyguards for a reason. Besides even if they can feel freedom from fear of imprisonment, they will at least still live in some fear of keeping their crimes secret, leading to disgrace or political revolutions against them. One may imagine situations like corrupt presidents or oligarchs in Africa committing all sorts of acts of corruption due to their power, they are constantly under threat of politics and potential coups and the like and have to constantly watch for any developments with striking workers or something to keep their power.

It's always important to remember the firm confidence you see so many dictators and the powerful have on tv is mainly the face they want you to see and like to imagine themselves as having, and not what goes on behind the scenes. Which i like to think is more stressful than most think, perhaps that is naivety talking though.