

# Article - Lucretius on the Nature of Parental Love - McConnell

Post by "Joshua" of August 29, 2019 at 10:12 PM

Huh.

Either I *seriously* misunderstand 'desire' in Epicurean philosophy, or this author is totally misapplying the concept.

Here's what I mean. When we talk about desire with regards to it being *natural* and *necessary*, surely what we mean is that the **experience** of a desire is *natural* (or *not*), while the **satisfaction** of a desire is *necessary* (or *not*). [Am I wrong here!?!]

Is enjoying food natural? The question doesn't really make sense. The desire to eat is natural. The satisfaction of that desire is necessary. But the enjoyment of the food itself is just a feeling of pleasure. That's the confusion this paper continually suffers.

Is it natural to desire to HAVE children? I could make a case either way. But the pleasure of loving those children if you DO have them is, 1.) An involuntary feeling, like all pleasures; and 2.) *always* a good in itself.

What a bizarre paper to read! "Should I love my children?" 🤔