

Glossary - What is the Epicurean Definition of "Pleasure?"

Post by "Elli" of January 17, 2020 at 3:55 PM

From Epicurus LTM : We must then meditate on the things that make our **eudaemonia**, seeing that when that is with us we have all, but when it is absent we do all to win it.

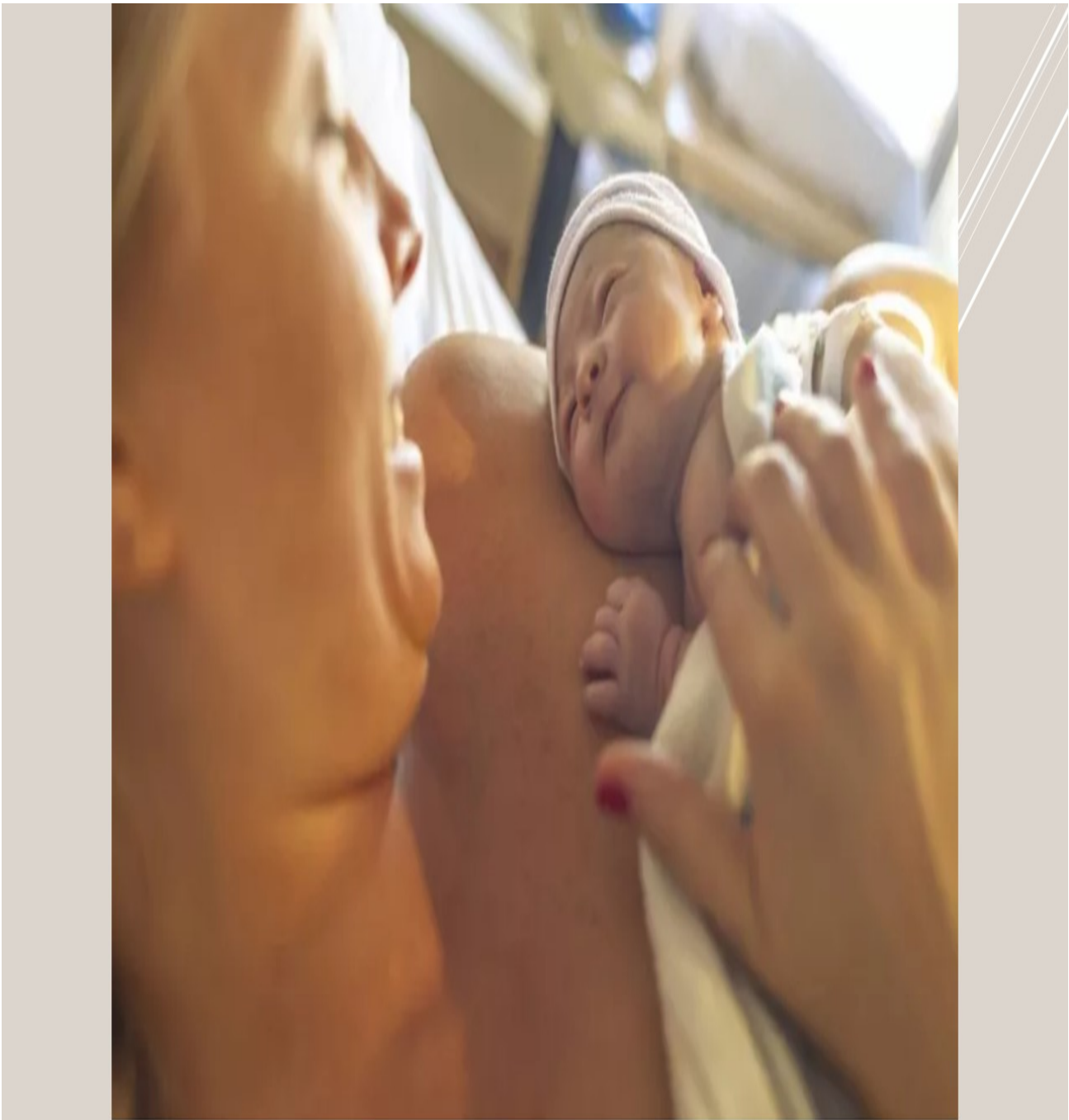
It is notable that, in the starting point and ending point of the LTM Epicurus remains on common ground with all **eudaemonist** philosophies, and then he proceeds to the first principle of his philosophy that is the goal of **pleasure/hedone**. The Letter to Menoecus is very carefully structured, exhibiting a deliberate array of subtopics and subtle gradation of nuance.

Back to first principles and on the basis of observation in Nature and human nature, before is corrupted with the empty beliefs. I have a question for this well-mood i.e. the sense of feeling of contentment or fullness that is given by Epicurus with the word "**eudaemonia**" and affirms that that is "**with us**".

As I said above is already engraved/intuitive in the molecular basis of DNA/RNA in the body of human beings, because if we observe carefully the neonates of just a week we will realize that when they are clean and with a full stomach and during their sleep or awoken are smiling often. This happens every day, and many times during the day, and I am not sure if this happens when they are in the womb. And after four weeks or more they smile with the socialized smile i.e. after eye contact with their parents or hearing sounds voices/melodies.

Of course, our friend Elayne, who is a pediatrician, knows better than me, and she is able to explain to us this phenomenon with the neonates that are smiling so early in life.

What are the mental images that are connected with concepts of words that the newborn baby has accumulated already in mind for the feeling of contentment as "eudaemonia" ? In neonates of some weeks, there are no words yet, not mental images with sheep and cows. Just senses and emotions/feelings that were born with them and are in the procedure of development and enrichment through experiences as their first social contact is within their family. And then our big societies all over that inside them are some devious and really evil persons waiting to corrupt them with lies and frauds, and many of these human beings will be lucky enough if they won't get into a madhouse.



Newborn baby smiling.