

# The Neglect of Metrodorus' Economics

Post by "Elayne" of February 14, 2020 at 3:30 PM

This also happens to be a topic I've spent significant time thinking about over the years-- this whole obsession with "natural", which has acquired a bizarre mystique. People use it to mean "not manufactured" or "innate", and they equate it with being inevitably desirable. I see this in my medical practice. I'll be working this weekend seeing patients, and it's a given that several parents will say "we want to use something natural." Well, you know, arsenic is natural.

Of course, I do not call them silly-- I actually feel sorry for them and for the kid. Because what the kid wants is to not be in pain.

The same thing applies to economic decisions. We want to not be in pain-- we want to have pleasure. Sometimes that requires manufactured items or non-innate behaviors, depending on the culture. There's no reason to give priority to any quality of a thing or action other than its relationship to pleasure.