

Epicurean Freedom. Enslavement by culture. The mob.

Post by “Harrington Andros” of April 19, 2018 at 7:55 PM

I don't really know where I'm going with this.

Just "thinking outloud".

It seems to me that Epicurus rejects all forms contrived restrictions excepts those that are not contrived directly by us, such as those that are Natural (physics, chemistry), and those that are part of our Nature (biological, social...).

It seems that he rejects those restrictions that vary from culture to culture, but warns us to beware of them so as not to end up having them take more of our freedoms too.

As self domesticated animals who have been selected by prior generations/cultures we continue to select those who conform most and also those who cheat while appearing to conform. So we will change the nature of people of future generations too.

Folks imagine this as the will of God, Kings, divinity, or as Fate, or as something else, but it seems pretty clear to me that we are doing this to ourselves, and don't have to accept where its taking us.

Yet even being aware of that... As the video says, we are not even aware of the freedoms that have been lost generation by generation, nor are we aware of how unable we'd be able to cope in a world where everyone was free of these contrived restrictions.

Some folks have struck out on their own isolating themselves from society and failed miserably, only to come back more grateful than ever.

Epicurus set up his home, school, near a major city, yet on his own private land. It seems the best of both worlds. Some freedoms while still being able to choose to play by society/culture when convenient.