

Epicurus & F* You Money**

Post by “KDF” of March 28, 2018 at 9:07 AM

I think that Epicurus might have invented the concept of F*** You Money (FUM). The popular definition of FUM is the amount of money that you need so that you are not beholden to anyone for your financial well being (not a boss, not a client, not a parent...). It seem that PDs 6, 7, 10, 13, 39, and 40 refer directly or indirectly to the FUM concept. I view the concept of "protection from other men," as perhaps an ancient equivalent of FUM. Interestingly, in PD 15, Epicurus says, "The wealth required by nature is limited and is easy to procure; but the wealth required by vain ideals extends to infinity." In other words, the less you need to be satisfied the lower your FU number.

On a personal note, achieving FUM has been a guiding principal throughout my adult life. I had arrived at a core belief that aligns very closely to PD 39: "The man who best knows how to meet external threats makes into one family all the creatures he can; and those he can not, he at any rate does not treat as aliens; and where he finds even this impossible, he avoids all dealings, and, so far as is advantageous, excludes them from his life."

I would be very interested to hear anyone's thoughts on this concept.

Post by “Cassius” of March 28, 2018 at 9:15 AM

I fully agree KDF. I expect that the entire concept of "living simply" is geared toward achieving what you are talking about - unless you can walk away from a situation financially if it becomes more painful than pleasurable, you're essentially a slave. Throughout my career I have tried to underspend and make sure that if something happened I would have the ability to walk away from any employer.

Post by “brett” of April 7, 2018 at 7:29 AM

I very much agree. I also live as simply as is comfortable so I can save adequately for just such an eventuality.

The beauty of understanding that pleasure can be extravagant experiences but is just as easily achieved with barley cakes and water is that you can enjoy both when it's appropriate and when it doesn't cause more pain than pleasure. For me there's huge value in cultivating simple pleasures as a way to free myself from bondage to others. The cynics had that part right...:-)

Brett

Post by "Hiram" of April 13, 2018 at 12:28 PM

More specifically Epicurean exercises should be conducted around Autarchy. I wrote this piece on autarchy for Minority Mindset

<https://t.co/UYpZBWkLUl>