



David Roemer <david@dkroemer.com>

SEP entry

3 messages

David Roemer <david@dkroemer.com>

Sat, Jan 7, 2017 at 10:53 AM

To: Uri Nodelman <editors@plato.stanford.edu>

Cc: Patrick McDonald <mcdonp@spu.edu>

Dear Uri,

I thought of a way of explaining the problem with your entry on the cosmological argument:

Argument #1: Homo sapiens sapiens evolved from animals, but human beings did not because a human being has free will and the conscious knowledge of animals as opposed to the sense knowledge of animals. This raises the non-scientific (metaphysical) question: What causes human beings to exist? Assuming or hoping the universe is intelligible means that God exists.

Argument #2: The universe began to exist 13.7 billion years ago as a tiny particle (Big Bang). This raises the scientific (non-metaphysical) question: What caused the Big Bang? Assuming or hoping the universe is intelligible means that God exists.

It should be obvious that argument #2 is an exercise in circular reasoning and has no content. Argument # 1, however, is not an exercise in circular reasoning because it has content. The content is that there exists two kinds of beings: God and human beings. The SEP entry only discusses argument #2, not argument #1.

Very truly yours,

David Roemer

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Stanford Encyclopedia Editors <editors@plato.stanford.edu>

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To: david@dkroemer.com

This is an automated reply to your recent message. The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy staff is now back in the office after the Winter holidays (Stanford University was shut down and SEP staff were reading email irregularly between December 22 and January 3). We are working through our backlog of email and will reply to your message just as soon as we can. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

Yours,

Ed and Uri

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Sat, Jan 7, 2017 at 11:07 AM

To: "Michael K. Noggle" <mnoggle5@gmail.com>

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