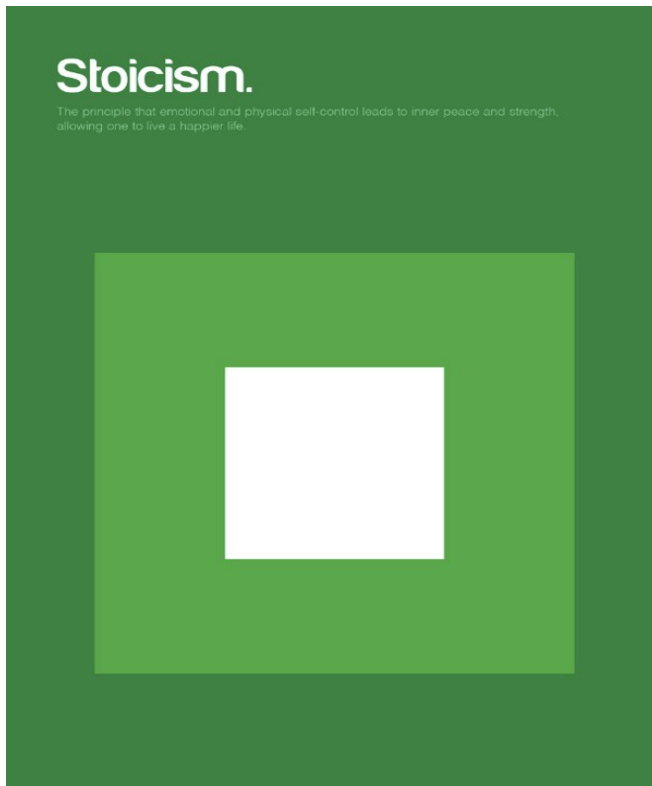


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Berlin Practical Philosophy International Forum e.V

Stoic Pragmatism



Stoicism, The Stoics



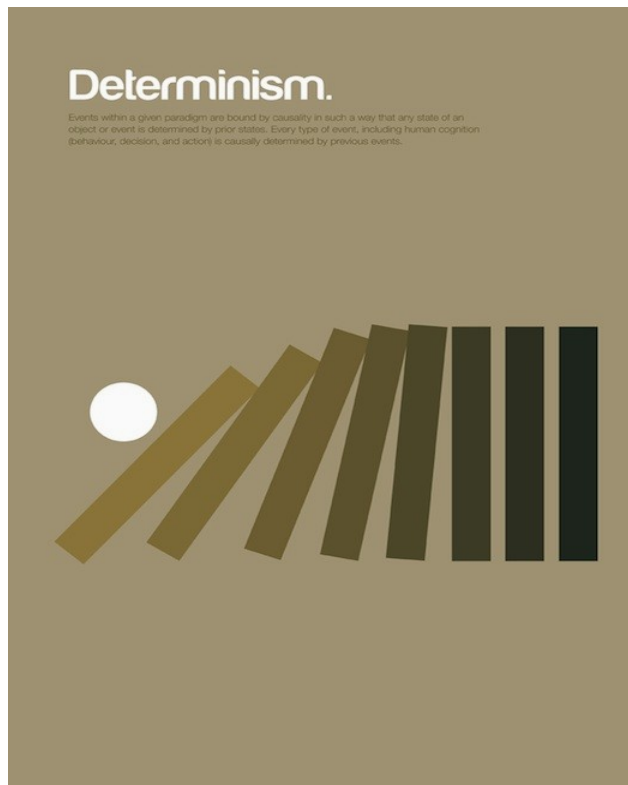
The principle that emotional and physical self-control leads to inner peace and strength, allowing one to live a happier life.

*(A Visual Dictionary of
Philosophy: Major Schools of
Thought in Minimalist
Geometric Graphics by Maria
Popova)*

Stoicism: Main Ideas

- A sort of naturalism
- Pneuma: divine/spiritual rationality everywhere
- Fatum or Providence: in effect, everything has sense/meaning
- Determinism: we should try to learn our fate
- Virtue or internal perfection can lead to happiness (eudaimonia)
- Apathy – indifference to external goods
- Philosophy is practical, a life guide

Determinism



Events within a given paradigm are bound by causality in such a way that any state of an object or event is determined by prior states. Every type of event, including human cognition (behavior, decision, and action) is causally determined by previous events.

Specific problems of social and cultural determinism: short discussion

- If our behaviour and our views are socially and culturally determined, are we free?
- If our behaviour and our views are only partially determined by social and cultural factors, the problem is: HOW MUCH and in WHICH AREAS
- Remember: if you are determined, you are not free in your choices

Pragmatism

A social and practical philosophy that is a sort of combination of (among other things)

and

Humanism

Relativism

Humanism

Humanism.

Human beings can lead happy and functional lives, and are capable of being ethical and moral without religion or dogma. Life stance emphasizes the unique responsibility facing humanity and the ethical consequences of human decisions.

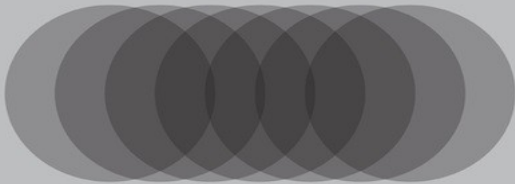


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Relativism

Relativism.

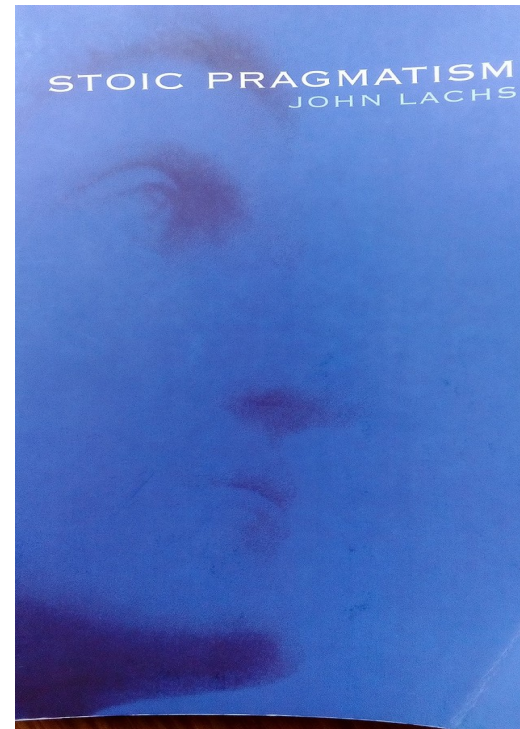
Points of view have no absolute truth or validity, having only relative, subjective value according to differences in perception and consideration. Principles and ethics are regarded as applicable in only limited context.



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J. Lachs' Stoic Pragmatism (SP)

- abandons "the research/discovery paradigm of philosophy"
- focuses on the expansion of philosophy beyond the practices of academic circles
- sees philosophy as life guide
- includes descriptions of "sound practices"
- accounts "largely unintellectualized attitudes"
- looks for "normative recommendations for actions"



Lachs's „To Have and To Be”: a discussion

„An activity is a deed, any deed, that is performed for its own sake. It is an action done not as a means to obtaining some ulterior end or producing some product (p. 309)”

Let's talk about it in the context of consumption

cont

„By knowing ourselves we will do the right things, by concentrating on the exercise of human powers for its own sake we will do them for the right reason (p. 311)”

Let's discuss it in the context of education



The End

Thank you for your attention