Plato (2021)*.* Socrates’ defense

[Assignment #5: Plato’s Apology: Socrates defense (instructure.com)](https://uvu.instructure.com/courses/519617/assignments/5346035?module_item_id=8112497)

In reading The Apology of Socrates I came across one interesting trait about Socrates that stood out to me and really defines him as a man. Socrates is probably one of the wisest people to ever live, what he spoke of thousands of years ago still apply to society today. And he himself even recognizes that he was the wisest person of his time, but yet it wasn’t for his knowledge that he thought himself wise. In fact he repeatedly would claim that he wasn’t that smart, in his discussion with Euthphyro he was constantly praising Euthphyro while degrading himself. Yet Euthphyro couldn’t answer Socrates questions. Socrates considered himself the wisest man because of his lack of knowledge, he was the only one willing to admit all that he didn’t know while others wouldn’t.

I find this philosophy of Socrates to be almost contradictory, yet it makes so much sense that I cannot deny the truth of it. Socrates is humble and he knows it better than anyone else, that is why he considers himself so wise. And in turn he calls all of the learned people around him unwise for the very opposite reason that he calls himself wise. He will tell someone to their face the fact that they are not as wise is because they think that they know everything. And the other person after hearing this will become more angered because they cannot prove Socrates wrong, yet they refuse to admit that he is right.

This is probably what got Socrates in trouble in the first place, he has no fear of those with more power and knowledge than him. Even in the face of death he states that he does not regret anything that he has said or done. He defended himself to the best of his own ability and his only request was that the men before him learn from him. It honestly amazes me that a man after being sentenced to death looks at his condemners and asks them to teach others as he did. He is going to be slain for what he did and yet he is asking those who condemn him to do the same. Socrates is a man to admire and a man who is confident enough in his beliefs and in what he has done that he doesn’t fear death. He believes that he will go to the after life and knowing he has done nothing wrong he knows he has nothing to fear.