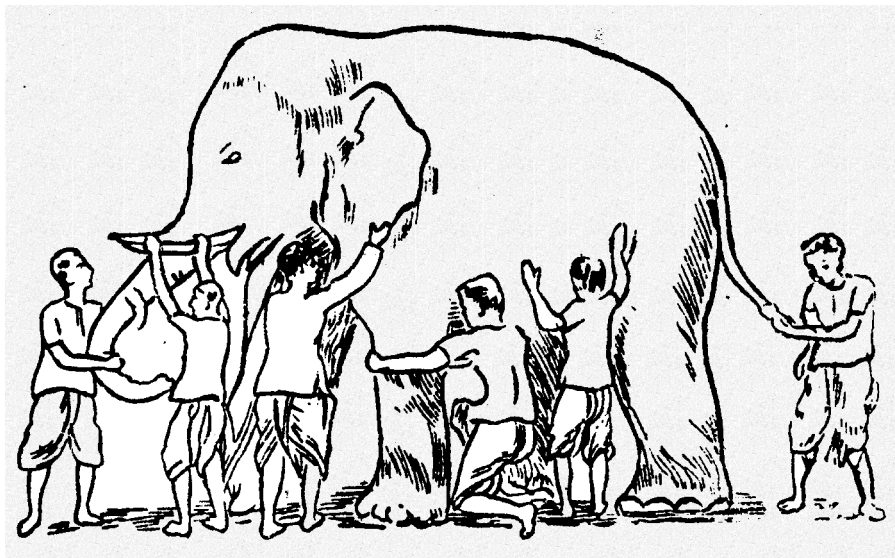


Philosophical Questions

University table talk

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"It's not anything"

Philosophy begins with scepticism

The burden of being convinced of anything universal and not physically demonstrable lies with the other

The mental is not necessarily the spiritual

The sense of eternal life, God and religion is the spiritual, the mental is that I think

The mental is represented by the brain state

All my activity has corresponding neuronal activity, therefore the latter is the exhaustive explanation of the former



"Difference in degree, not kind"

If matter can be divided, what is wave-particle duality?

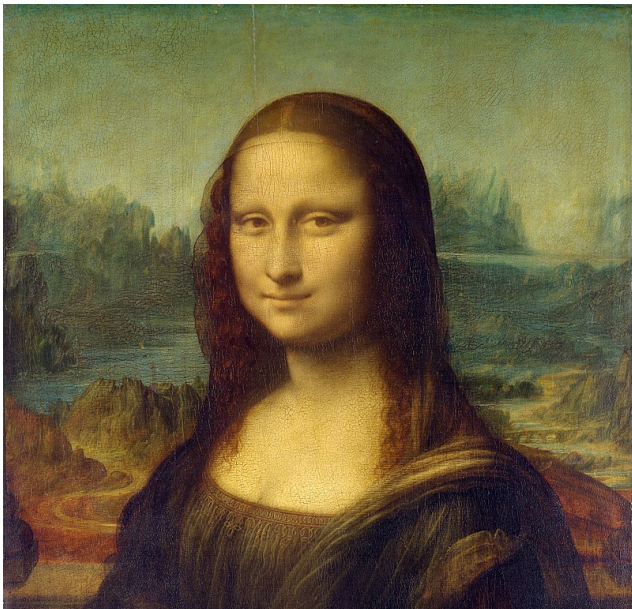
The lack of understanding of what matter is may indeed happen to encompass the spiritual

couldn't there be a third way between matter and spirit

What assurance is there that the two are mutually exclusive and both are exhaustive of reality?

behaviour is explicable at a neurological, habitual, environmental level

What makes up decisions, however free they seem, is fully accounted for in a determined way



"Recursive representation"

Intelligence is algorithmic

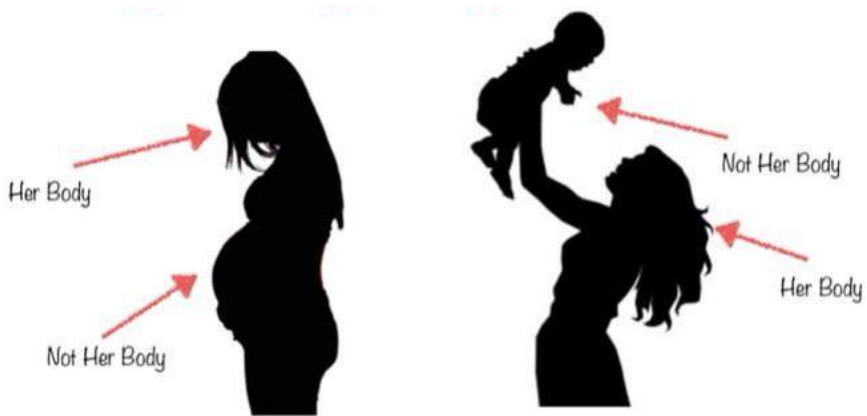
Advancement of 'artificial intelligence' is such that in matters of communication there is no way to distinguish man from mechanism

Thought is imagination, memory and fantasy

A concept is always conceived in a particular way, therefore there is no such thing as a concept as something universal

That you seem to understand me suffices

Language is simply convention, it has no dependence on the immaterial. just like other animals



~~"My body"~~ Our bodies, my choice"

Some happy form of utility seems to work

happiness is a self defined pursuit and, whilst subject to tension, seeks social harmony

I do things for different reasons

multiplicity in the sources of personal intentionality can be coherently maintained

The good is according to decision, not nature

the good is a virtue whose pursuit is according to the *via media*



"Mathematics is certain"

Cleverness is a prerequisite for belief

What if conclusions of the intellect do not agree with the articles of faith?

The contraries have been argued ever since

Whatever you say, someone else could probably offer a convincing argument to the contrary



"God said to Moses, 'I am who I am'" Ex 3:14

The Unmoved Mover is not the Triune God

The philosophical God is not the Catholic God; what is missing in the former may imply a radically different God with respect to the latter

- How is it that persons and natures do not equate?
- How does essential simplicity bear any relation to 'relation'?
- Christianity proposes logically irreconcilable theses: merciful and just, power and love



"Let us make man in our image" Gen 1:26

Truth is not obtained from trust

Religion is a concept, and has no mechanism by which it can be verified

- In the 'here and now', ahistorically, it must be conceptual
- Historical events offer circumstantial evidence, but nothing beyond 'reasonable doubt'
- Religion is modern-day mindfulness
- The religious man and the unbeliever can and do achieve the same things