

## 19. Immortality Part II, The value of life, Part I

### The nature of wellbeing

#### Hedonism life equation

In deciding whether what life holds for you is worth having, you add up all the good times and subtract all the bad times and see whether the net balance is positive or negative.

#### Hedonism

The only thing intrinsically valuable is pleasure and the only thing intrinsically bad is pain

These are not the only things that matter in life

#### Robert Nozick's experience machine

The experience machine has the subject (voluntarily!) in a lab, with electrodes connected to his brain re-creating all the best life's experiences the subject could choose. Pleasure is maximum and the pain is absent. Strangely, most people would choose experiencing the aforementioned things in real life vs virtually. Therefore there must be something else apart from pure pleasure that makes life good.

### Could immortality be something worth having forever?

Eternal life is enjoyable

There is an activity that one would enjoy doing forever

#### Julian Barnes "The Dream"

The best thing would be to be able to live as long as you wanted

#### The human nature

Human ability to reflect upon their experiences makes it impossible to enjoy anything forever

Artificially induced memory loss could "refresh" person's memories, therefore enabling them to continue enjoying things they would otherwise get bored of.

#### Methuselah's case

Then it would not matter that it's physically the same person still enjoying eternal life, as the continuity of personal identity would have been broken (memory loss) and over such a long time the personal identity would have changed.