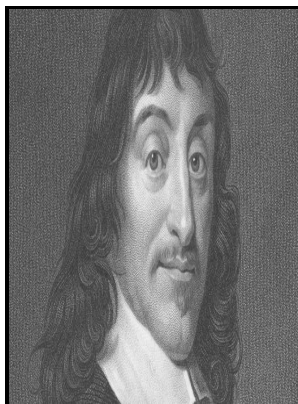


Descartes and the modern mind.

Archon Books - Passions of the Soul



Description: -

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Descartes, René, -- 1596-1650. Descartes and the modern mind.

-Descartes and the modern mind.

Notes: Bibliography: p. 486-489.

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Descartes' Metaphysics

But, how can Descartes make a legitimate inference from his independent understanding of mind and body as completely different things to their independent existence? But I will say, for your benefit at least, that the whole problem contained in such questions arises simply from a supposition that is false and cannot in any way be proved, namely that, if the soul and the body are two substances whose nature is different, this prevents them from being able to act on each other AT VII 213: CSM II 275. Not much is known about his early childhood, but René is thought to have been a sickly and fragile child, so much so that when he was sent to board at the Jesuit college at La Fleche on Easter of 1607. Second, this is also supposed to show that what is unchangeable in the wax is its extension in length, breadth and depth, which is not perceivable by the senses but by the mind alone.

Passions of the Soul

But how can two substances with completely different natures causally interact? Further, the mind thoughts, ideas has no location; bodies always do. Unsatisfied with scholastic philosophy and troubled by skepticism of the sort expounded by Montaigne, Descartes soon conceived a comprehensive plan for applying mathematical methods in order to achieve perfect certainty in human knowledge. Some philosophers might regard it as obvious that sameness of sperm is essential to the identity of a human body and to personal identity.

Descartes on the separateness of mind and body

Consider, for example, the adventitious or sensory idea of the Sun. AT VII 78, CSM II 54 This talk of thinking thing vs.

Descartes on the separateness of mind and body

The nature of a body is to be extended in length, breadth, and depth.

Descartes: Method

The Provisional Moral Code In Part 3 of the Discourse on Method, Descartes lays out a provisional moral code by which he plans to live while engaged in his methodological doubt in search of absolute certainty.

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