

# AN ARGUMENT FOR IDEALISM

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INSPIRED BY PLOTINUS'S FIFTH *ENNEAD*.

- P1. If Idealism is not true, then there must be a gap between the subject and object of knowledge.
- P2. If there is any gap between the subject and the object of knowledge, then there is always the possibility of the subject being mistaken about the object (either misrepresenting it or not being in the right relation with it).
- P3. If there is any possibility of the subject being mistaken about the object of knowledge, there can be no certain knowledge.
- P4. If there can be no certain knowledge, then there can be no way to distinguish closer from further approximations of certain knowledge.
- P5. If there can be no way to distinguish closer from further approximations of certain knowledge, then there can be no distinction between closer and further approximations of certain knowledge.
- P6. If there can be no distinction between closer and further approximations of certain knowledge, then there can be no probable knowledge.
- P7. If there can be neither certain nor probable knowledge, there can be no rational belief whatsoever.
- P8. If there can be no rational belief whatsoever, there can be no reasonable way to evaluate this or any other argument.
- P9. If there can be no reasonable way to evaluate this or any other argument, there can be no argument properly speaking.
- C1, P10. If Idealism is not true, there can be no argument properly speaking.
- P11. There is at least one argument: this one for Idealism.
- C2. Therefore, Idealism is true.