

Think

Philosophy for everyone

A Journal of the Royal Institute of Philosophy

Edited by Stephen Law



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Think

1. Guidelines for Contributors

The editor welcomes accessible contributions from philosophers and other thinkers on any topic broadly related either to philosophy or to the development of thinking skills. It is anticipated that most contributors will be academics.

Contributions should be below 4,000 words (unless otherwise agreed with the editor). Very short pieces are welcome.

Think welcomes submissions which are clear and to the point and in the straightforward prose characteristic of the best philosophy. At the same time, the editor would also like to encourage the use of imaginative and unusual ways of making ideas engaging and accessible, e.g. through the use of dialogue, humour, illustrations (black and white: line and photos), examples taken from the media, etc. Papers engaging with some topical debate are especially welcome.

Contributors should presuppose no philosophical background knowledge on the part of the reader. The use of jargon and logical notation, especially where unexplained, should be avoided. Please avoid including notes and references if at all possible.

While the presentation of original thought is very much encouraged, a submission need not go beyond providing an engaging and accessible introduction to a particular philosophical issue or line of argument. Authors are asked to include within their submissions clear and fairly thorough introductions to any debates to which they wish to make a contribution.

Contributors of accepted articles will be asked to assign their copyright (on certain conditions) to the Royal Institute of Philosophy so that their interest may be safeguarded.

Authors are responsible for obtaining permission to reproduce any material for which they do not own copyright, to be used in both print and electronic media, and for ensuring that the appropriate acknowledgements are included in their manuscript.

The editor has the assistance of a panel of referees drawn from the Institute's Council. Please include with your contribution a brief statement of your position and institution (where relevant).

2. Submissions

Contributions (as Word documents) and communications should be sent to:

Stephen Law (editor)

THINK

Heythrop College

University of London

Kensington Square

London

W8 5HQ

Email: think@royalinstitutephilosophy.org

3. Format and Style

The editor would be grateful if final submissions were in the *Think* house style. Please use single quotation marks (double when embedded). Please italicize rather than underline.

Where it is absolutely unavoidable that references be included, they should be incorporated into the text (preferably) or else appear as endnotes in the *Think* style. Examples:

Fred Author, *Title of The Book* (Place: Publisher, 2002), p. 23.

D. Academic, 'Title of Paper', *A Journal*, vol.1, no.1 (1990), pp. 34–56.

© The Royal Institute of Philosophy, 2015

Think

Philosophy for everyone

Number 40 • Summer 2015

A Journal of
The Royal Institute of Philosophy

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Contents

INTRODUCTION <i>Stephen Law</i>	5
A DEBATE BETWEEN A THEIST AND A SANTA CLAUSIST (ACT I) <i>Ruth Tallman and David Kyle Johnson</i>	9
A DEBATE BETWEEN A THEIST AND A SANTA CLAUSIST (ACT II) <i>Ruth Tallman and David Kyle Johnson</i>	27
THE EVIL GOD CHALLENGE – A RESPONSE <i>Keith Ward</i>	43
GOOD TO BE BAD? <i>Paul Bloomfield</i>	51
THE IMMORALITY OF PRAYER <i>Ardon Lyon</i>	57
ON INTROSPECTION AND INTROSPECTIONISM <i>Christian Beenfeldt</i>	65
A PLATONIC METHOD FOR MAKING IDEAS ENGAGING AND ACCESSIBLE <i>Charles More</i>	73
WHAT IS ART? A PRAGMATIC PERSPECTIVE <i>Thomas C. Scott-Phillips</i>	87
MORAL CLUMSINESS <i>Alejandro Arango</i>	93
A SIMPLIFIED ONTOLOGICAL ARGUMENT AND FICTIONAL ENTITIES <i>Gianluca Di Muzio</i>	101
THE RATIONALITY OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS <i>Bryan Frances</i>	109