

## Challenging a smart argument on the existence of God

<http://www.starmind.com/question/557/>

**Zusammenfassung: A concise and clear explanation of this apparent proof. The need for the use of an evolutionary psychology approach is explained, and the rest follows quite naturally from the principles of this discipline.**

This is an interesting argument, but flawed on several levels. Although in the social and economic world things tend to obey the 'supply and demand' principle, this cannot be extrapolated to the world in general. There is no logical reason that a thing should exist simply because there is an abstract need for it, because such a thing as a need without qualification does not exist in reality; expedients are necessary only relative to a particular end. Clearly, the crux of this argument is not based on pure logic, but rather a curiosity of human nature.

The correlation between things that exist around us and our emotional responses to those things fall within the domain of evolutionary psychology. There are indeed many examples of emotions that are stimulated by objects in our environment. However, for these responses to have evolved these objects must be capable of direct perception with our senses.

So, how can we explain the observation that humans long for eternal life, paradise, and the existence of an almighty being? My personal view is that this is simply the reason for humans inventing the idea of God. However, it turns out that the explanation of our desire for all of these phenomena can actually be explained as a consequence of accepted evolutionary theory. Let's consider them one by one.

A suicidal species would become extinct very quickly, and so organisms evolve with very strong survival instincts. In addition to our instinct for survival at any given time, humans have also evolved a special kind of consciousness that enables us to plan into the future. The combination of these two traits leads to the desire for immortality because this desire is the projection of immediate survival indefinitely into the future.

The idea of paradise is a more elusive concept; it seems to simply be a place where all of the material things humans desire are present, and with none of the things with they fear or avoid. This is an obvious extension of the need for those particular individual things themselves.

As for the idea of desiring an all-powerful and fair entity, this is the desire to see justice enforced in every sphere of the world around us. The desire for an omnipresent and omniscient being can be explained similarly by extrapolation of the desire to seek alignment with those around them that excel in or are well informed about some particular useful task.

**Fragenlöser:**

**Don Berry**

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Änderung):

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