



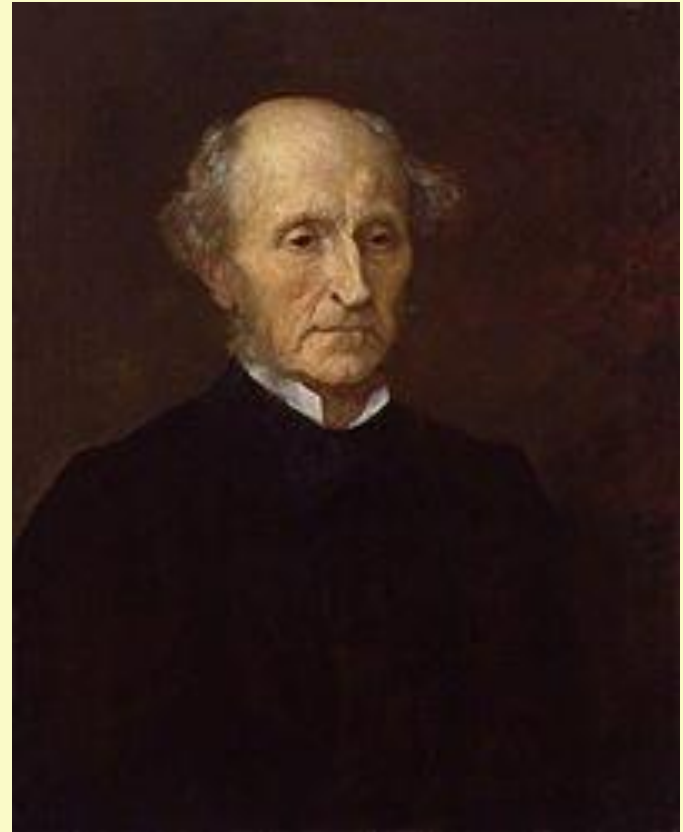
John Locke

HISTORY.COM EDITORS • UPDATED: SEP 20, 2019 • ORIGINAL: NOV 9, 2009

**Tell your partner  
seven things you  
remember about  
Locke's liberalism.**

# Syllabus content

- criticism of hedonism
- Freedom
- integrity and self respect of the individual
- self regarding actions
- other regarding actions





**Mill in a  
nutshell**

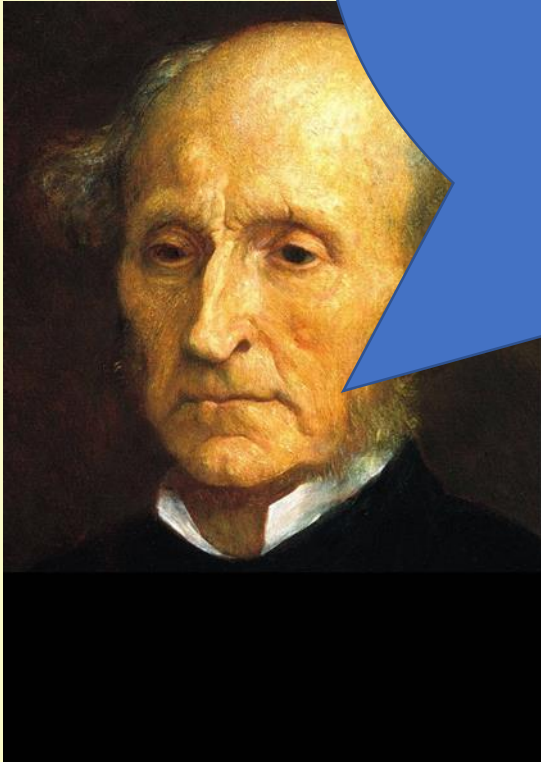
# **criticism of hedonism**

# WHAT IS... HEDONISM?





"it is better to be a human being dissatisfied than a pig satisfied; better to be Socrates dissatisfied than a fool satisfied"



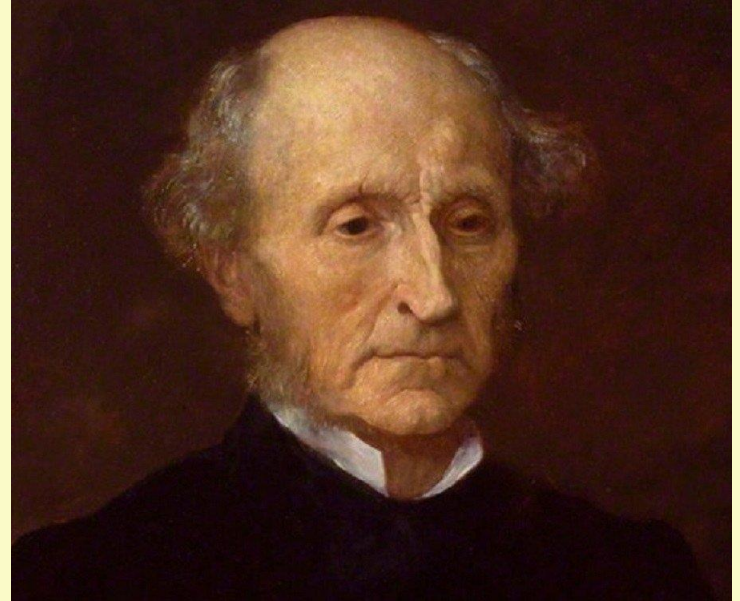
**freedom**

**liberty =  
political  
freedom**



The only purpose for which power can be rightfully exercised over any member of a civilized community, against his will, is to prevent harm to others. His own good, either physical or moral, is not a sufficient warrant.

**Mill, On Liberty, 1859**





**An individual's liberties  
should be respected and  
protected unless their  
actions...**

**cause  
(tangible) harm  
to other**

**infringe on the  
liberties of  
others**

Two types of unacceptable restriction

**paternalistic** if it is done for the individual's benefit

**moralistic** if it is done to ensure that the person is moral rather than immoral



**integrity and  
self-respect of  
the individual**

**individualism**

**Freedom from  
dependency on  
others**

**Freedom to self-  
rely and self-fulfill**

# self-respect

The term duty to oneself, when it means anything more than prudence, means self-respect or self-development; and for none of these is any one accountable to his fellow-creatures, because for none of them is it for the good of mankind that he be held accountable to them.

# **self-regarding actions**

**one that (directly)  
affects only the  
individual him- or  
herself.**



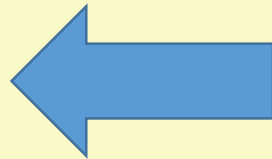
**state can't  
intervene**



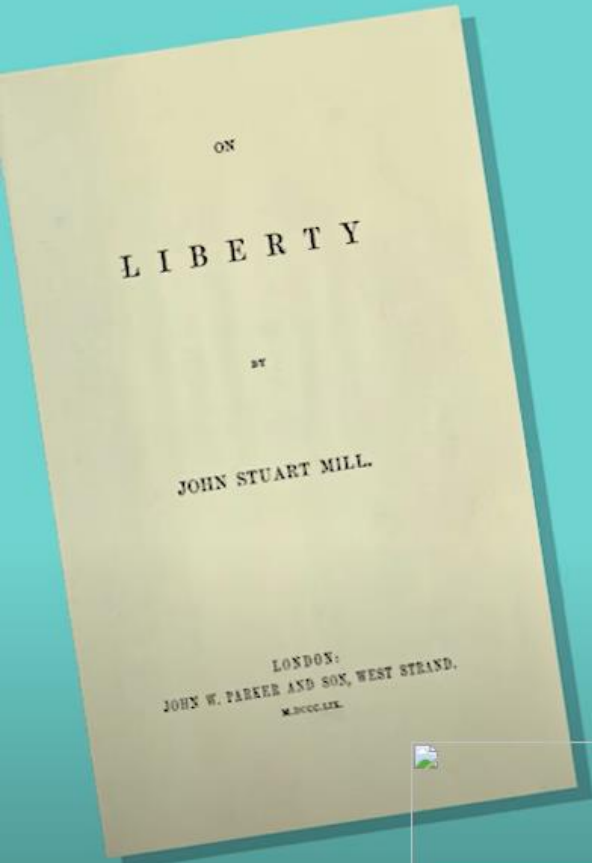
# **Protected liberties**

**other-regarding  
actions**

one that (directly)  
affects others.



**state can  
intervene**



0:10 / 10:08



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x4Pt7TF1w2c>



Volume 125, Issue 500  
October 2016

## Article Contents

### Abstract

1. Refining the self-regarding/other-regarding distinction
2. Remaining problems with the self-regarding/other-regarding distinction
3. Expanding the protected sphere
4. Narrowing the protected sphere

JOURNAL ARTICLE

## Reformulating Mill's Harm Principle

Ben Saunders

*Mind*, Volume 125, Issue 500, October 2016, Pages 1005–1032,  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/mind/fzv171>

**Published:** 30 August 2016

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### Abstract

Mill's harm principle is commonly supposed to rest on a distinction between self-regarding conduct, which is not liable to interference, and other-regarding conduct, which is. As critics have noted, this distinction is difficult to draw. Furthermore, some of Mill's own applications of the principle, such as his forbidding of slavery contracts, do not appear to fit with it. This article proposes that the self-regarding/other-regarding distinction is not in fact fundamental to Mill's harm principle. The sphere of protected liberty includes not only (most) self-regarding conduct, but also actions that affect only consenting others. On the other hand, the occasional permissibility of interfering with self-regarding conduct can plausibly be explained by reference to the agent's consent. Thus, the more important distinction appears to be that between consensual and non-consensual harm, rather than that between the self-



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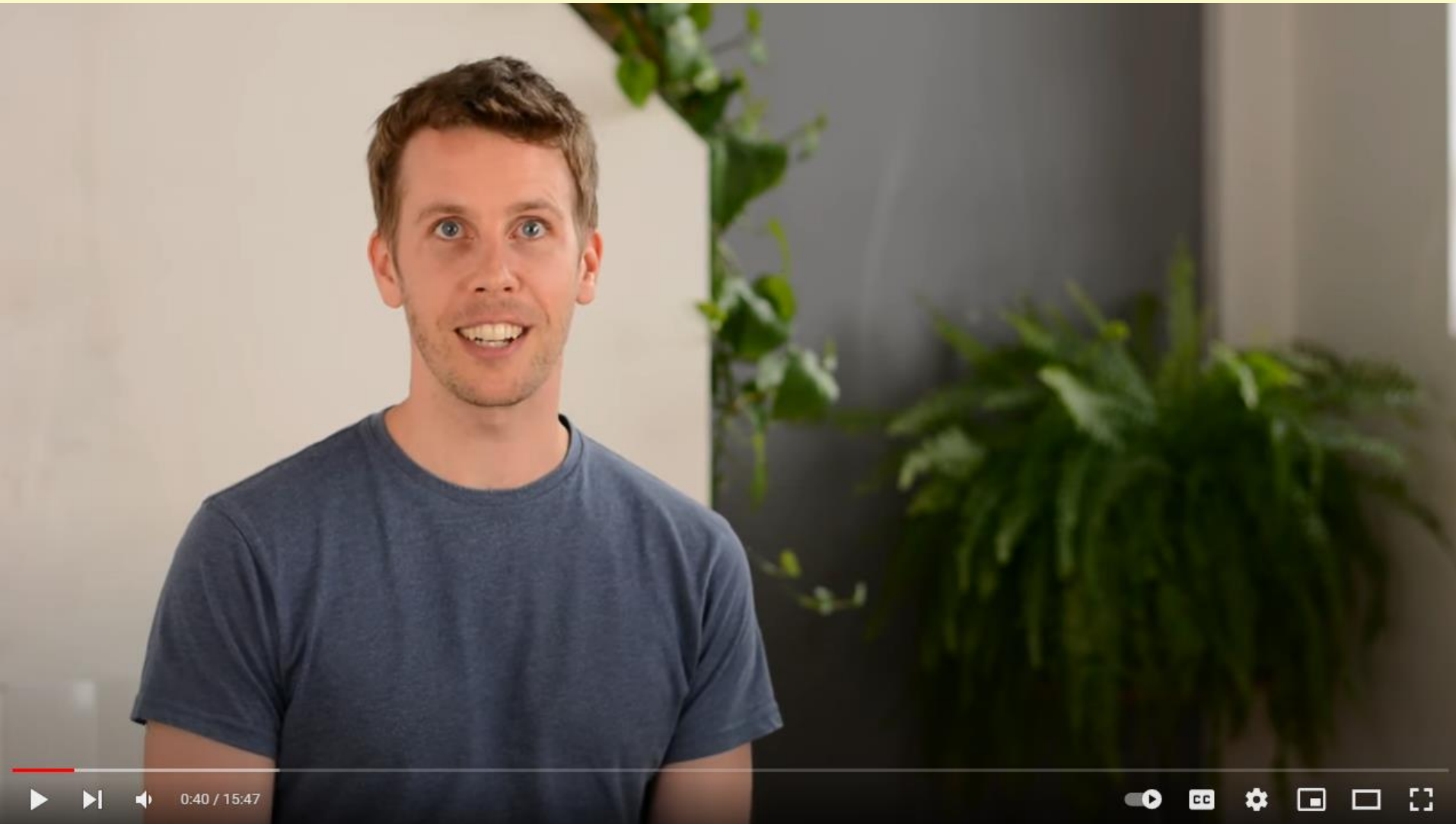
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[John Stuart Mill - On Liberty | Political Philosophy - YouTube](#)