

home | archives | polls | search

There Is No Such Thing As Induction

Steven Den Beste, like most philosophers, has swallowed the ancient myth that we obtain and justify our knowledge of the physical world through a process called induction which is a bit like deduction only different.

Alan Forrester [permalinks broken so search for "induction"] is on the case.

From what Steven writes, we confidently induce (just kidding!) that he has not read **The Fabric of Reality**.

Mon, 05/19/2003 - 20:52 | permalink

weeeeeee

I would have been on his case too, if I hadn't stopped reading him due to annoyance at his previous bad epistemology. And he posted that quantum physics is non-local and ignored my correction. Anyway, everyone should read FoR, it's the best book ever.

-- Elliot Temple http://curi.blogspot.com/

by Elliot Temple on Mon, 05/19/2003 - 23:14 | reply

Well, At Least He's Aware of the Criticism

I see Den Beste has added an update noting that Nigel Kearney has commented.

Since this comment consists of referring Den Beste to the epistemology of Popper and Critical Rationalism, there might be hope that Den Beste will see the light.

by Gil on Tue, 05/20/2003 - 17:05 | reply

No surprise here.

As much as I like SDB's blog, he really needs to stop droning on under the delusion that he is on firm footing when discussing philosophy. Fact is, he is WAY out of his depth when it comes to

metaphysics, and it's getting a little tiresome watching him try to

apply his knowledge of physics (which he never fails to remind his readers is prodigious, as in, "As an engineer, I blah-blah-blah, because we engineers blah-blah-blah") to philosophy. He's more strut than substance, and he really ought to get back to talking about the Great Mac vs. PC Debate, or something equally devoid of philosophical import.

by a reader on Thu, 05/22/2003 - 20:09 | reply

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