

B. Plato's concept of Forms is of little use in the understanding of the physical world.
Discuss.

I agree that Plato's world of Forms has little use to the physical and materialistic world that we ourselves live in. Especially as society becomes more materially dependant, those of us who do not seek philosophical 'truth' have little use for the 'perfect world' that Plato seems to have such a grasp on.

Plato's concept of the perfect world, in short is the world that we physically live in but perfected. Shouldn't someone with so much intellectual and intelligent thought to the world focus on the world of the senses instead of that which only our unconscious dips in and out of?

To understand the physical world, the ideas of Plato have little relevance, as his theory of Forms focuses on how the physical world is only a mere approximation of what the real world is, Perfection. To say that the real world, and world of knowledge is that of perfection begs the question, can the World of Forms contain the perfect Form of Reality when reality can be bad and good? However 'real' and the concept of the word is contrasted between what we think and what Plato believes. When we say, 'get real', we mean 'get out of dream land and face your problems', get out of our dream for perfection and 'get real'. However, Plato says real is perfection. His belief of 'real' cannot help us understand reality in the material world as real to us is the 'lesser' world, containing the illusory and far from perfect Forms.

Moreover, as the philosophical thought of 'how do we know what we know?' dips in and out of our thoughts, Plato's theory is perfect for winding our inquisitive questions around. He lays out an explanation for 'how we know the perfect circle' and most of the world's population do not beg to argue but agree the theory or go with the materialistic view that we know from generations of humans.

The physical world is full of the 'good, bad and the ugly'. Plato's theory, flaws in understanding the physical world as he fails to tell us what would be the perfect Form of ugly? We live in a world full of death, starvation and disease. If the perfect Form of Beauty is an unimaginable vision, how unimaginable would the perfect Form of Murder be? If Plato describes the World of Forms as being perfect, where is the division between perfect good and perfect destruction? From this I can further believe that our world is a more perfect world than his as his would have so much controversy between perfect ugliness and perfect beauty.

Plato's theory, if indulged by the population of the world, would lead us to live in a world of dissatisfaction and disappointment. If we all searched for the 'truth' as Plato believes is the only way to gain full knowledge of the world. We would eventually find perfection but have to deal with the imperfection that we live in everyday. Would gaining the truth really help us in our material world if our senses and mind can deal with imperfect qualities of life?

Further more, those dissatisfied with their lives and search for this 'truth' and 'knowledge' become further disappointment in their lives when they find out that only their soul can experience such 'perfection' and their body stops them from doing this. If there's any reason for a suicide from philosophy, the search for 'knowledge' would defiantly be a top scorer. The amount of months and years of life in their 'body' they

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would go through knowing that if their body dies, then their soul being free would amount to depression and seclusion from civilization.

The days we lead in our lives are spent, changing, experiencing and living. Those who seclude themselves from life in order to find the truth already could be going against the top Form of good by denying their family, friends and loved ones.

More to the point, we must argue what reason is there that their must in fact be a World of Forms. If their isn't one, then we would have to be satisfied with our physical world and gain an ability to try to make the most out of every occasion, and I ask isn't that better than living a life of dissatisfaction?