

THE PROBLEM OF EVIL

(A) EVIL EXISTS

GOD EXISTS

- (B) God is omnipotent (All-powerful)
- (C) God is omnibenevolent (All-good)
- (D) God is omniscient (All-knowing)

REPLACE "God" with gods, goddess, or goddesses and it'll still be valid.

OUTCOME: Logically inconsistent/contradictory
SOLUTION: Negate ONE of the above FOUR propositions OR Refute the outcome by proving they are in fact logically consistent

Approaches to resolve the problem

1 The "no-god" approach

EVIL EXISTS

GOD DOESN'T EXIST

- ~~(B) God is omnipotent (All-powerful)~~
- ~~(C) God is omnibenevolent (All-good)~~
- ~~(D) God is omniscient (All-knowing)~~

OUTCOME: Problem resolved

2 The "process theology" approach

EVIL EXISTS

IMPERFECT GOD EXISTS

- ~~(B) God is omnipotent (All-powerful)~~
- ~~(C) God is omnibenevolent (All-good)~~
- ~~(D) God is omniscient (All-knowing)~~

Can't stop evil
Doesn't want to stop evil
Doesn't know when evil will happen

OUTCOME: Problem resolved

3 The "theodicy" approach

EVIL EXISTS

GOD EXISTS

- (B) God is omnipotent (All-powerful)
- (C) God is omnibenevolent (All-good)
- (D) God is omniscient (All-knowing)

I. We are all guilty
 II. We have free will
 III. For character-building
 IV. Only God knows!
 OUTCOME: Problem resolved

4 The "evil redefinition" approach

EVIL DOESN'T EXIST

GOD EXISTS

- I. Evil is an illusion
OR
- II. Evil is just the "absence of good"
OR
- III. Evil is only part of the overall good ("the best of all possible worlds")

- (B) God is omnipotent (All-powerful)
- (C) God is omnibenevolent (All-good)
- (D) God is omniscient (All-knowing)

OUTCOME: Problem resolved