

Of all the characteristics of ordinary human nature envy is the most unfortunate; not only does the envious person wish to inflict misfortune and do so whenever he can with impunity, but he is also himself rendered unhappy by envy. Instead of deriving pleasure from what he has, he derives pain from what others have. If he can, he deprives others of their advantages, which to him is as desirable as it would be to secure the same advantages himself. If this passion is allowed to run riot it becomes fatal to all excellence, and even to the most useful exercise of exceptional skill. Why should a medical man go to see his patients in a car when the labourer has to walk to his work? Why should the scientific investigator be allowed to spend his time in a warm room when others have to face the inclemency of the elements? Why should a man who possesses some rare talent of great importance to the world be saved from the drudgery of his own housework? To such questions envy finds no answer. Fortunately, however, there is in human nature a compensating passion, namely that of admiration. Whoever wishes to increase human happiness must wish to increase admiration and to diminish envy.

What cure is there for envy? For the saint there is the cure of selflessness, though even in the case of saints envy of other saints is by no means impossible. But, leaving saints out of account, the only cure for envy in the case of ordinary men and women is happiness, and the difficulty is that envy is itself a terrible obstacle to happiness.

But the envious man may say: 'What is the good of telling me that the cure for envy is happiness? I cannot find happiness while I continue to feel envy, and you tell me that I cannot cease to be envious until I find happiness.' But real life is never as logical as this. Merely to realize the causes of one's own envious feeling is to take a long step towards curing them.

CSS-2010

(Preus)

Envy, a worse trait and its Cure

Envy is a worse trait of human nature. An envious person wishes bad luck to others and can not be happy because of ~~his~~ desiring more of what he has. An envious person creates hurdle in other paths of benefits, because he wants the same benefit for himself. The cure, however, of envious person is admiration. It is present in every human nature. If a person wishes to increase his happiness, he should have to admire others and be happy in what he has. An envious person, unfortunately, is himself a hurdle for his happiness. Therefore, an envious person has to find the causes of his own envious feelings and has to do work to cure them.

Original Words: 349

Preus Words: 115

~:~:~:~