

On the impossibility of epistemic akrasia

Epistemic akrasia is the state of believing something, while recognizing that there are sufficient reasons for an incompatible belief. The question of the possibility of epistemic akrasia is central to the task of explaining the motivational force that reason exerts on us, and its relation to their normative role. The aim of this paper is to explain why epistemic akrasia is not possible. I will argue that there is an internal but *non trivial* relation between recognizing one's own best reasons for belief, and forming the corresponding belief. These are two different kinds of states. The non-trivial internal relation follows from accepting some general characteristics of our conceptual system, and of our status of rational subjects.