

Term Paper Proposal: Free Will Defense?

Elmo M Recio

PHIL 391 - Philosophy of Religion

Department of Philosophy
College of Arts and Sciences
Drexel University

August 30, 2000

The Free Will Defence

The term paper will concentrate on the issues pertaining to, and regarding the various arguments involved in the Free Will Defense.

The issue at hand with the free will problem as it pertains to the existence of a god, is the following: if there were a god, he would be omniscient and omnipotent, then he would prevent or not create evil in the world. There is evil in the world, so god must not be omnipotent, or omniscient. If god is not omnipotent or omniscient then he is not god.

Where the free will question comes in is in the omniscient portion of the argument. If God is indeed omniscient then he knows all that has happened, all that is happening, and, most importantly, all that *will* happen. So if he will know all that is to happen, how much room does that leave for someone to have the freedom to do as he pleases.

Resources

- Comments on Alvin Plantinga's *Free Will Defense* by Dr. Scott H. Moore, Department of Philosophy, Baylor University:
http://www.baylor.edu/Scott_Moore/handouts/free_will_defense.html
- *Freedom and the Free Will Defense* (1990) by Richard Gale:
http://www.infidels.org/library/modern/richard_gale/freedom.html
- *Does the Free-Will Defense Constitute a Sound Theodicy?* by Dr. Niclas Berggren:
<http://hem.passagen.se/nicb/Theodicy.htm>

I suspect there will be other resources added as the investigation widens, and continues.