

WHY NOT A PHILOSOPHER KING? AND OTHER OBJECTIONS TO EPISTOCRACY

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Abstract: In this paper I am going to examine epistocracy as a form of limiting political agency of some citizens (by removing their political rights) and offer an internal critique of it. I will argue that epistocracy runs into a number of logical and epistemic problems in trying to define who should be the members of an epistocratic polity. I will also suggest that some of the problems epistocracy attempts to correct can be solved in a more just way, while preserving democracy.

Keywords: epistocracy, democracy, voting; political rights