

On a Dilemma of the Gettier-Style Thought Experiments

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Abstract

Gettier-style thought experiments have become a standard methodology in modern epistemology. Not only are the Gettier-style thought experiments frequently used as *counterexamples* to an account of knowledge, they are also commonly taken to be *justifiers* of an account of knowledge. This paper argues that there is a tension between these two argumentative roles of the Gettier-style thought experiments, which gives rise to a dilemma.

Key Words: thought experiment, necessitism, counterexample, justifier, the problem of deviant realization