

# TWO DIALOGUES

## ONE ANCIENT, ONE MODERN

Ron Gunczler

### First Dialogue

And so, Adeimantus, have we successfully established that the kallipolis devolves into timocracy devolves into oligarchy devolves into democracy devolves into tyranny?

Quite so, Socrates.

But would that be the end?

It would appear so.

But to be the final result of the adaptation of the kallipolis, assuming that perfection means that something cannot be changed, it would have to be a perfect form of government, wouldn't it?

Of course!

But I thought the kallipolis was our perfect form of government.

Yes, indeed it was.

But it devolved ...

Apparently so.

So is it unreasonable to suggest that there is no such thing as a perfect form of government?

No, of course not!

So it logically follows that a tyranny could devolve further.

Surely so.

Let's look at the tyrant, shall we?

Go ahead.

Such a man has taken power by deception or force, correct?

Indubitably so.

He must always be seeking favor with the people lest they rise up against him, then?

That would make sense, certainly.

Could it follow that, because of his constant positive social interaction, the people would become familiar with him and look up to him as a leader?

That would be likely, yes.

Likely, he will marry and his wife will bear an heir.

That is almost a certainty.

As generations pass, the tyrant and his heirs will become closer and closer to the people, yes?

In all probability.

And it is most likely that his original roots of deception or violence will





## Second Dialogue

**Ron:** You know, Nick, time is really just a way to express space.

**Nick:** Quite so, Socrates [*sic—was Nick being sarcastic?*].

**R:** Well, isn't space just a tool for explaining motion?

**N:** It would appear so.

**R:** And isn't motion just a physical representation of energy on both the macro and micro levels?

**N:** Of course!

**R:** So, is time not, essentially, energy?

**N:** Yes, indeed it was [*sic—I attribute this lapse in grammar to Nick's excitement at talking about physics*].

**R:** I guess, then, that someone who can stop that time ... must expend a lot of energy.

**N:** Apparently so.

**R:** Well, how do you think they replenish that energy? I can't imagine anyone stopping time for any period without immediately dying, if they weren't continuously supplemented with some form of nutrition.

**N:** No, of course not!

**R:** That nutrition would have to come from somewhere!

**N:** Surely so.

R: A conclusion, if I may?

N: Go ahead.

R: This nutrition is a type of sustenance fed intravenously to the “time-freezer.” Otherwise, the subject would have to continuously stop freezing time to eat. In addition, the setup must be intravenous in order to be close enough to the subject to be subject to his or her personal time field—the only way for the subject not to permanently freeze time or die, and therefore necessary for freezing time in a theoretical situation.

N: Indubitably so.

R: Therefore, for time travel to be possible, it must be implemented in the future with access to a perfect liquid nutrient solution.

N: That would make sense, certainly.

R: Comparable to the systems in place in *The Matrix* or *Soylent Green*.

N: That would be likely, yes.

R: This would be mass-produced, or it would be infeasible.

N: That is almost a certainty.

R: Because it can so easily be produced, it is probably available for public consumption.

N: In all probability.

R: We have established that time travel requires large amounts of nutrition to implement.

N: Such is time’s nature.

**R:** In said society, a type of liquid nutritional supplement would be available to the public to be taken intravenously.

**N:** That would seem to be the case.

**R:** So, theoretically, in this future with time travel, all individuals receive the necessary sustenance to live.

**N:** Yes.

*[EDITOR'S NOTE: At this point in our discussion, it began to drift to subjects not related to this treatise; so, while the discussion continued, this transcript will not.]*