

Thesis Statement

Is Thomas Aquinas's ideology on the human intellect being one of the causes of love justifiable?

Thesis Explanation

This essay will defend the idea that knowledge is a cause of love and that it can be explained and understood. Drawing up on other viewpoints is essential and showing the distinction between the love of God and the love for other people. The explanation of the Summa Theologiae volume 19 must be used to understand Aquinas's direct opinion on the matter. It must be made clear that it is not an argument whether St. Thomas Aquinas is right or wrong, but whether the argument he presents can be rational and reasonable.

Outline

1. *Introduction*
 - a. The beginning of the essay will be an explanation of the idea behind the question; Is Thomas Aquinas's ideology on the human intellect being one of the causes of love justifiable?
 - b. Why are we examining whether St. Thomas Aquinas has a justifiable declaration that knowledge is a cause of love?
2. *Paragraph 1 – St. Thomas Aquinas's view on the causes of love*
 - a. The analysis of Thomas Aquinas's overall opinion on whether knowledge is a cause of love.
 - b. The summary of Aquinas's general thoughts will be examined.
 - c. Looking at Aquinas's broad view will help with the understanding and processing the theory that will be addressed.
 - d. The specific philosophers that will be used to support Aquinas's argument will be Aristotle. One of his arguments provide support which will be found in the Summa Theologiae; Volume 19, The Emotion.
 - e. The use of Badhwar's novel "love" will demonstrate an explanation to some of Aristotle's work which will support Aquinas's belief.
3. *Paragraph 2 – Touch on Aquinas's basic Thoughts*
 - a. Begin with a quote from the Summa Theologiae; Volume 19, The Emotions.
 - b. Touch on the more specific opinion of Aquinas on knowledge being the cause for love.
 - c. Explain Aquinas's argument on the chosen quote and what he is trying to disclose.
4. *Paragraph 3 – Love in the ten commandments*
 - a. Explain what the 10 commandments are.
 - b. How love comes into the commandments according to Aquinas.
 - c. Why love is an important part of the 10 commandments.
5. *Paragraph 4 – The objections to Aquinas's view*
 - a. Next, will be listing the objections to the question of whether intellect is a cause of love.

- b. Objections will be found in both Aquinas's own books that he has addressed himself and secondary sources where academic scholars have criticised his work.
 - c. The objections will be taken from sources, explained and assessed.
 - d. This assessment will demonstrate whether there is any valid argument against Thomas Aquinas's theory of knowledge being the cause of love.
 - e. The objections will be taken from academic scholarship and other philosophers like Augustine and Dionysius. Both philosophers were found in the Summa Theologiae; Volume 19, The Emotions.
6. *Paragraph 5 - Touch on the areas of objections*
- a. Take a quote from one of the philosophers that objectifies Aquinas's opinion on knowledge being a cause for love.
 - b. Explain what the specific quote means and what argument is trying to be presented.
7. *Conclusion*
- a. The final component for this essay will be an attempt to weigh up how far arguments from Thomas Aquinas's ideology challenge the potential objections.

Bibliography

Aquinas, Thomas, 1967. Summa Theologiae; Volume 19, The Emotions. English translation by Eric Darcy. Eyre and Spottiswoode Limited.

Badhwar, N.K., 2003. "Love", Oxford University Press. The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy URL = <<https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2017/entries/love/>>.