

# **The Option Method Institute**

Education based on the teachings of Bruce Di Marsico

[www.ChooseHappiness.net](http://www.ChooseHappiness.net)

## **Considerations**

**Bruce Di Marsico**

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...An Option Method<sup>SM</sup> Analysis Of Certain Topics

## THE OPTION VIEW OF DEATH

The truth about death for man from the attitude engendered by The Option Method would be derived the same way as any other phenomenon. "What do you mean by death?" "What does that mean to your happiness?"

Death of another human being, especially a loved one, usually means the loss of that person with no hope of regaining them, their presence, their company, their loving and happy ways. The death of an unwanted person, especially an enemy, means quite a different thing. The meaning makes the difference in the emotional response, and in the very human meaning of death itself. To deny the difference would be to ignore that all events are relevant or not according to their impact on and pertinence to our values and desires.

Death simply does not have one scientific, factual meaning, although it may seem to allow for an objective scientific, biologic description. But even that word "objective" actually is an emotional reference, a description of death for an organism that has no affective meaning to the describer. In other words, the death of an organism that is either unreal (theoretical or generic), or for which the describer has no emotional opinion.

A definition such as "cessation of all movement and irreversible decay, without animation or life" is paltry at best, not parsimonious, thorough or exclusive, and as with all definitions risks being irrelevant and needing further explanations of the other terms in the definition. Besides, that is not what most people mean to ask when then they ask about death and it's meaning.

Definitions as meanings are deficient when they lack the relevant information, and presumptively judgmental when they assert subjective value. Semantics can only render utility when the questioners can truly learn to ask what they really want to know, and why they want to know. Then semanticists can refer to the appropriate authorities for material information.

The most meaningful and therefore useful answer would have to take into account what is really being asked. I dare to say that whenever I have heard that question about the "meaning of death" or something like it the questioner was really asking, "How can I not be unhappy about the loss of a loved one?"

As to the question of one's own death the meaning is usually, "How can I not be unhappy about losing all that I love?" Succinctly, in both cases the idea of being unhappy about loss (and the "death" of hope) is the relevant fear and the real meaning of "death".

This fear, of course, is the fear that the Option Method deals with, and the very fear that it allows a person to question. The person's actual answers that follow from the Option Method of questioning that person's beliefs about loss as a cause of sadness or anger, etc. are what are going to be THE answer to the person's meaning of the question of "How can I not be unhappy?"

Bruce M. Di Marsico, October 21, 1990