

# Candidate evidence

One non-religious argument that challenges the existence of God is the Problem of Evil in its logical form. It argues that the existence of unnecessary suffering and evil in the world is incompatible with the idea of an all-powerful, all-knowing, and perfectly good God **(KU)**. This comes from the idea by Epicurus and is known as the inconsistent triad:

- If God is all-powerful, He could stop evil.
- If God is all-knowing, He would know how to stop evil.
- If God is perfectly good, He would want to stop evil. **(KU)**
- Yet, unnecessary suffering and evil exist in the world.

An implication of this view on the existence of God is God might not be omnipotent: He may lack the power to prevent all evil. God might not be omnibenevolent: He may allow evil for reasons that aren't fully good or comprehensible to humans. God might not be omniscient: He may not know how to prevent all forms of suffering **(A)**. This implies that the classical "all-powerful, all-knowing, all-good" God may not exist, or at least not in the way commonly understood in religions such as Christianity **(A)**. God could still exist but maybe not in the classical understanding of thousands of years ago.

I agree with this challenge to the existence of God as I think it is better to understand a God who is more suited to what the world expects in modern day rather than what the world expected from years ago **(E)**. We have so many things wrong with our world that it would be impossible and illogical to think that we have a God who is able to fix everyone's problems when so many of our problems are caused by our own free will and we are responsible for the majority of suffering and evil **(E)**.

Another non-religious argument that challenges the existence of God is the Big Bang Theory. This theory is used to counter argue the Cosmological argument which is based on the idea that everything in the universe has a cause **(KU)**, and this leads logically to the existence of a first, uncaused cause — God **(KU)**. The Big Bang theory challenges this as it claims that the universe began approximately 13.8 billion years ago from a singularity **(KU)**. The expansion of space and formation of matter, galaxies, and planets are described entirely through physical laws **(KU)**. This challenges the need for God by suggesting a natural cause

The Big Bang Theory implies if the universe began with the Big Bang from a singularity, it suggests that time and space themselves originated from this point. This may imply that the concept of "cause" may not apply in the same way at the origin of the universe **(A)** and undermines the idea that the universe must have had a cause, and that this cause must be God **(A)**. It also implies that the universe's origin and development can be explained by scientific processes (like the laws of physics), reducing the need to use a God to explain the universe's existence **(A)**.

I agree with the Big Bang Theory based on the evidence that science can provide. The observation that distant galaxies are moving away from us, with their light being redshifted, supports the idea that the universe is expanding **(E)**. This evidence of expansion makes me agree that everything was once concentrated in a single point and has been spreading out since the Big Bang as opposed to the idea that God created the universe in its current form which is no longer a possible belief due to the evidence based in the Big Bang Theory **(E)**.

Another non-religious argument that challenges the existence of God is the Theory of Evolution. This theory is used to counter argue the Teleological argument which is based on the idea of finding a watch on the ground. Its intricate parts and ability to keep time suggest it was designed by a watchmaker **(KU)**, not randomly assembled by chance **(KU)**. Similarly, the natural world, with its complexity and design, suggests the presence of a divine designer. And that designer is God **(KU)**. The Theory of Evolution challenges this argument as it states that all living organisms share a common ancestor. Over millions of years, species have varied into the wide variety of life forms we see today **(KU)**. Known as "survival of the fittest," natural selection is the process by which species with traits that provide an advantage in their environment are more likely to survive and reproduce **(KU)**. Traits that help organisms survive and reproduce in their specific environments are called adaptations **(KU)**. Over time, populations evolve as these traits become more prevalent **(KU)**.