

**Consider this truth claim:**

**Truth is immoral because...**

1. It is exclusive; it necessarily excludes one truth claim from others;
2. It is arrogant because it implies that if a truth claim about X is necessarily true, then it follows that all opposing truth claims are false.

**Response:**

1. To say that truth is immoral is to make a truth-claim, namely, that truth is immoral. Is that claim, immoral?
2. To say that truth is arrogant is also self-defeating, for one is making a truth claim, namely, that truth is arrogant.
3. Rather, “arrogance” is a properly an attitude whereas “immorality” is about moral conduct. I wonder if a category mistake occurs when one claims that truth is arrogant or immoral. A category mistake occurs when property is ascribed to X that could not possibly have that property (e.g., purple tastes good).
4. Even when one claims that truth is “both/and” one is self-defeating for one is still using “either/or” logic. How? One is claiming that logic is “both/and” and not “either/or.”
5. Lastly, when one claims, “there is no such thing as absolute truth.” is also making an absolute truth-claim, that is, “There is no such thing as truth.” This claim is also self-defeating.

**A Closer Look:**

As discovered in ancient thought, built into reality (existence) are first principles of logic, that is, certain assumptions or propositions that cannot be deduced from any other assumption or proposition. Logic is simply putting thoughts into order. These first principles, which were not created, are fundamental to our knowing anything and distinguishes such things as X from Y. Otherwise, communication, understanding, and even scientific and social progress would be impossible. In fact, these first principles of logic correspond to how things actually are, they are logically consistent, do not change given time or space, empirically adequate, experientially relevant, and work, generating beneficial ends when one inquires into reality, knowledge, morality (e.g., justice), scientific experimentation, and social and technological progress.

1. **The law of non-contradiction (A is not non-A):** A cannot be both A and non-A at the same time and in the same sense (same relationship). “Anyone who denies the law of noncontradiction should be beaten and burned until he admits that to be beaten is not the same as not to be beaten, and to be burned is not the same as not to be burned.” ~ Avicenna.
2. **Law of identity (A is A):** If a statement is true, then the statement is true. In sum, the statement X is the same thing as itself and is different from everything else. Applied to reality, the law of identity statement that everything is itself and not something else.
3. **The law of excluded middle (either A or non-A):** This means that something has to be one thing or another. It cannot be in the middle (both; mix)) or it would be something else than what it is.
4. **The law of rational inference (A + B = C):** The law of rational inference teaches that if premise A and B are valid, then, conclusion C follows. It monitors inferences between premises and conclusions.

**Conclusion:**

Truth is simply telling as it is. Truth corresponds with reality, identifies things as they actually are, can never fail, diminish, change, or be extinguished, and is necessarily logical. Though truth can generate pain, especially when certain dearly loved beliefs and opinions are discovered to be false or mistaken, the discovery of truth generates beneficial ends (personally, morally, and socially) for all involved as evidenced in its application in scientific and moral domains of thought and practice.