

Why should one allow that "to conceive the existence or nonexistence of x is to imagine experiencing the presence or absence of x "?

One should allow—indeed, insist on—this because, once the connection is broken between conceiving existence or nonexistence, on the one hand, and imagining experiencing existence or nonexistence, on the other, we no longer have any control over what existence or nonexistence can be conceived, and thus over the meaning of our own words.

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