

Hume's Scepticism and His Dissolution of it

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This paper proposes a new interpretation of the relationship between Hume's scepticism and his naturalistic dissolution of it. The traditional understanding of Hume is committed to the little remarked upon inconsistency between his scepticism about fundamental beliefs and his dissolution of doubt, when foundationalist scepticism is attributed to him. The problem arises because his dissolution of scepticism depends on the very fundamental beliefs to which his scepticism denies any foundation. It is argued that his scepticism about fundamental beliefs is not based on a lack of grounds, but consequent to psychological inquires dependent on them, and that his attack on scepticism can also depend on them. Hume is consistent in his scepticism about fundamental beliefs and his dissolution of it.