

What does sartre  
mean by human  
beings existence  
preceding their  
essence do you ag...

[Philosophy](#)



Teacher 5 December What does Sartre mean by human beings' existence preceding their essence? Do you agree with his notion of radical freedom and responsibility - why or why not?

### Sartre Views

The statement has a profound meaning in itself. When Sartre, being an existentialist, gave his views as stated above, he would have thoughts in his mind that being present actually in any situation is more important than to be present in suppositions.

He emphasized on the existence of humans rather than their essence. As per his philosophy, when he said that human being's existence preceding their essence, he meant that humans are themselves responsible for their actions and essence has nothing to do with their deeds.

As for example, if a man is involved in false deeds then it is not that his essence was bad. It is because he himself has denied to follow the right path and indulged himself in bad deeds. So what is more important to Sartre was existence rather than essence.

### My Views

As far as my views are concerned, I somewhat agree with the Sartre's notion of radical freedom and responsibility as well as disagree somehow.

The reason why I agree with this philosophy is that if we think meticulously then we do agree somehow that whatever a man does, only he is himself for that. For example, let us suppose, I have spoken lie to my mother, for petty issues, like for omitting my high school or anything else. Then I do not think that my mother or father is responsible for that. It is also not that my essence is bad. Whatever I am doing, I am doing it with my own mind. I am

<https://assignbuster.com/what-does-sartre-mean-by-human-beings-existence-preceding-their-essence-do-you-agree-with-his-notion-of-radical-freedom-and-responsibility-why-or-why-not/>

sensible enough to differentiate between good and bad deeds and if still I opt for bad ones then it is simply my own choice. Moreover, when I keep on lying with everyone and involved in false acts then people will definitely know me as a liar. No one will think about my essence, everyone blames me for my false actions. That is why I think that Sartre is somewhat right in his sayings and notion of radical freedom and responsibility.

One reason that makes me think otherwise is that everyone is not bad by birth. Criminal is not a born criminal, a liar is not a born liar. It is our society who made them so. What I believe is that if a person has good essence, then his inner can never feel gratified and contented for his false deeds. One day he surely regrets for all his actions done so far in his life.

Conclusively, my opinion is a blend of yes and no to the Sartre's notion of radical freedom. Though we are free enough to do whatever we wish. Also, sensible enough to draw a line between good and bad deeds, that is why if we are doing something good or bad that totally depends on us as well as the society where we live, our friends whose company makes a lot of difference on our personality and last but not the least our essence somehow.

#### Works Cited

Jorn K. Bramann. " Sartre: Existentialism and the Modern World". Frostburg. Web. 5 December 2012.