

Other Minds

A.303/2

Project No: 00525/3019
Duration: 24'30"
Production by: Mary Hoskins

Colour Film No: OUF.153
First Transmission:
21st February, 1973

Linked to correspondence text for units 3 and 4, "Other Minds".
Open University Press 1973. Price

The programme relates closely to the correspondence text, in the course of which Professor Vesey criticizes Professor Ayer's solution to the Other Minds problem. In the television programme Ayer reciprocates with an attack on Vesey's treatment.

The division between the two speakers is a deep one. They hold opposed views not only on the nature of the 'Other Minds' problem but also about the task of the philosopher in general. Ayer holds it to be to justify common-sense beliefs, in view of arguments advanced by sceptics, whereas Vesey wants to show the sceptical arguments to be grounded on mistaken notions about meaning. The result is a keenly argued debate.

Title: Other Minds

Producer: Mary Hoskins

Contributors: Sir Alfred Ayer
Godfrey Vesey

CU A303/02

Tape No. 6HT/70790

Project No. 00525/3019

O.U. film no. 153 colour

Date Recorded.

1st TX. 21.2.1973

Form VTR

Duration 24'28"

Class nos. 128.2

Summary: The other minds problem is
discussed by Ayer and Vesey.

Rws

Seq.	Time.	Footage.	Sequence List.	Sound Cue
1	1.07	18	Vesey and Ayer define the problem of other minds	...connected but distinguishable
2	5.45	87	The discussion of the other minds problem is begun by Ayer and Vesey; historically Wittgenstein and the Cartesians are considered. They define their points of difference.	Now I think that..... ...your position is.
3	10.46	156	Ayer presses Vesey to define his position and to make more clear his objections to Ayer's viewpoint. Vesey seems to imply a mind theory for the resolution of the other minds problem and Ayer challenges Vesey to present it.	Well, I don't want... ...to provide one
4	15.38	217	Parallels are taken from Scepticism to throw light upon the problem. Vesey's third solution seems to be the denial of the existence of the problem; Ayer defends its philosophical validity.	I don't think.....why doesn't it?
5	24.03	314	Vesey defends his position. Ayer presses Vesey for more precision, in his position of denial of the existence of the problem. The existence of objects when not perceived is touched upon.	Well, I think, I..... ...to beat me with.
	24.28	318	Credits	