

Imre Lakatos

Quotes

*Theory, Science, Research, Criticism, Commitment, Intellectual, Heuristics,
Philosophy, Blind, Numbers, Men, Empty, Philosopher, Achievement, Results,
Thinking, Becoming, Honesty, Stuff, Would Be*

Research programmes, besides their negative heuristic, are also characterized by their positive heuristic.

~Imre Lakatos

The positive heuristic of the programme saves the scientist from becoming confused by the ocean of anomalies.

~Imre Lakatos

Blind commitment to a theory is not an intellectual virtue: it is an intellectual crime.

~Imre Lakatos

No experimental result can ever kill a theory: any theory can be saved from counterinstances either by some auxiliary hypothesis or by a suitable reinterpretation of its terms.

~Imre Lakatos

Intellectual honesty consists in stating the precise conditions under which one will give up one's belief.

~Imre Lakatos

The proving power of the intellect or the senses was questioned by the skeptics more than two thousand years ago; but they were browbeaten into confusion by the glory of Newtonian physics.

~Imre Lakatos

Philosophy of science without history of science is empty; history of science without philosophy of science is blind.

~Imre Lakatos

There is no falsification before the emergence of a better theory.

~Imre Lakatos

In degenerating programmes, however, theories are fabricated only in

order to accommodate known facts

~Imre Lakatos

Belief may be a regrettably unavoidable biological weakness to be kept under the control of criticism: but commitment is for Popper an outright crime.

~Imre Lakatos

Indeed, this epistemological theory of the relation between theory and experiment differs sharply from the epistemological theory of naive falsificationism.

~Imre Lakatos

Man's respect for knowledge is one of his most peculiar characteristics. Knowledge in Latin is scientia, and science came to be the name of the most respectable kind of knowledge.

~Imre Lakatos

It is not that we propose a theory and Nature may shout NO; rather, we propose a maze of theories, and Nature may shout INCONSISTENT.

~Imre Lakatos

That sometimes clear ... and sometimes vague stuff ... which is ... mathematics.

~Imre Lakatos

Einstein's results again turned the tables and now very few philosophers or scientists still think that scientific knowledge is, or can be, proven knowledge.

~Imre Lakatos

The classical example of a successful research programme is Newton's gravitational theory: possibly the most successful research programme ever.

~Imre Lakatos

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