

Come On, Come On, Love Me for the Money: A Critique of Sparks on Brennan and Jaworski

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A COMMENTARY ON Jacob Sparks (2017), “Can’t Buy Me Love: A Reply to Brennan and Jaworski,” *J Philos Res* 42: 341–352, <https://doi.org/10.5840/jpr2017425101>

ABSTRACT

Jacob Sparks critiques our recent work on commodification by arguing that purchasing love indicates one has defective preferences. We argue A) it is possible to purchase these things without having defective preferences, B) Sparks has not shown that acting such defective preferences is morally wrong, C) that Sparks’ misunderstands the Brennan–Jaworski Thesis, and so has not produced a counterexample to it, and finally D) that when we examine the processes by which love is gifted, it is unclear whether these processes should be preferred.

IN A RECENT article, Jacob Sparks (2017) defends what we call “semiotic objections” to commodification. “Semiotic objections” to commodification hold that buying and selling certain things is wrong because of what such transactions express (Brennan and Jaworski

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