
Can't Buy Approval: A Response to Taylor

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A RESPONSE TO James Stacey Taylor (2017), “Semiotic Arguments and Markets in Votes: A Comment on Sparks,” *Bus Ethics J Rev* 5(6): 35–39, <http://doi.org/10.12747/bejr2017.05.06>

ABSTRACT

James Stacey Taylor claims that my argument in “Can’t Buy Me Love” is both incomplete and doomed to fail. I grant some of Taylor’s points, but remind him that semiotic objections to the commodification of certain goods are strongest when we think not about individual market transactions, but about what it means for a society to support the market in question.

SUPPOSE I OFFER to pay Taylor \$20 to take a pill that will make him believe I’ve developed a devastating critique of Brennan and Jaworski’s (2015a) thesis in “Markets Without Symbolic Limits.” What, if anything, would be wrong with him accepting my offer? What, if anything, would be wrong with a market for beliefs?

Nothing, says Brennan, Jaworski and Taylor. *As long as no one is harmed, exploited, defrauded, corrupted, as long as no goods are mis-*

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