

Hard-determinism is the following position:

Hard-determinism=df. (i) determinism is true, (ii) no humans are morally free, (iii) humans are never morally responsible for their actions.

In order to support clause (iii), a hard-determinism might argue as follows:

Argument Against Moral Responsibility		
1	Determinism is true.	P
2	If determinism is true, then every human action is pre-determined by antecedent conditions and the laws of nature.	P
3	If every human action is pre-determined by antecedent conditions and the laws of nature, then no humans act freely.	P
4	If no humans act freely, then humans are not morally responsible for their actions.	P
5	Therefore, humans are not morally responsible for their actions.	1–4

One way that we might argue against hard determinism is to reject premise (1). That is, to claim that determinism is not true. Otherwise put, indeterminism is true.

Group 1, pp.65–67: What is Simple Indeterminism?

Write the definition of simple indeterminism on the board. Next, explain each of the three parts, including any key terms (e.g. underdetermined actions). Finally, explain the major objection to simple indeterminism.

Group 2, pp.67–69: What is Volitional Indeterminism?

Write the definition of volitional indeterminism on the board. Next, explain each of the major parts, including any key terms (e.g. underdetermined volitions). Why is volitional indeterminism an improvement over simple indeterminism?

Group 3, pp.69–75: What is Libertarian Agent Causation?

Write the definition of Libertarian Agent Causation on the board. Next, explain each of its major parts, including any key terms (e.g. when an action is externally caused). Finally, explain the third and fourth objections to Agent Causation (see pp.74–75).

Open Question: Are humans: (i) morally free and (ii) morally responsible?

	Reality is determined	Reality is underdetermined
No free will	Hard determinism	Hard indeterminism
There is free will	Compatibilisms	Libertarian theories (simple indeterminism, volitional indeterminism)