

Daniel Petti

Short Video Assignment

Godel's Incompleteness Theorem

The video I chose was Robert Penrose, an accomplished mathematician, describing Godel's Incompleteness Theorem to Joe Rogan on the Joe Rogan Experience podcast. Rogan's podcast is remarkable due to its massive outreach and large variety of guests, so an explanation of a theorem relating to formal systems is not out of the ordinary for the podcast. Godel's Theorem essentially proves that, for a given formal system of sufficient complexity, the internal consistency of that system cannot be proven within the system. Sufficient complexity here is taken to mean that the system is able to represent natural numbers, such as a formal system describing addition. So as Penrose describes it, if such a system had a theorem, that theorem could be proven true within the system, but it cannot be proven to be consistent. Consistent here means that the theorem is not provable to be simultaneously true and false. Penrose was astonished by the theorem, and felt it was important to share it with a larger audience, such as on the JRE podcast.

Rating:

R: .35

S: .15

I: .16

I2: .20

Rating: .91