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"There is no Doxa of Forms: Plato’s Beliefs Revisited"

Abstract: In the Republic and other dialogues Plato seems to argue that knowledge (epistêmê) and belief (doxa) have distinct objects: knowledge is only of intelligibles, belief only of perceptibles. Nowadays it is widely thought that this view is untenable and thus that Plato simply could not have meant to express it: surely the objects of knowledge and belief can overlap. Focusing on what has seemed the most hopeless part of the view, that there is no belief of intelligibles, I argue that we both should and can find an interpretation of Plato’s epistemology that makes sense of this claim. Doing so allows us a new and philosophically compelling account of Platonic belief.