

mind can restrict us in some way. As such, it is important to define what exactly we mean by the term 'restrictive'. Something which may be restricted by a high degree of open-mindedness is our ability to build upon pre-existing knowledge. It may be argued that too much open-mindedness can leave us without any solid foundations with which to build knowledge, for example, axioms and other types of basic assumptions. This is especially relevant in those cases in which knowledge is primarily sought through deductive reasoning, such as in mathematics.

Furthermore, a more extreme form of open-mindedness entails not only being receptive to different ideas, but actually holding various possibilities in one's mind, without fully committing to any one of them. Such a state of being may very quickly lead to a significant degree of indecisiveness regarding what we believe to be true.

The aforementioned points demonstrate how too much open-mindedness can in a sense be restrictive, but what if we think of this term in slightly different way? We may also talk about restrictions placed upon our general intellectual freedom to receive and hold ideas from outside of our existing knowledge base. Could having too much open-mindedness lead to this rather ironic outcome? Whilst jumping from one paradigm or set of beliefs to another may