

The Southern Journal of Philosophy

Report on SJP MS 8013—Vagueness or Graduality?

I recommend against publishing this paper in *The Southern Journal of Philosophy*.

There is a considerable literature on vagueness in recent years, including a *Southern Journal* Supplement volume. And, I believe, the issues discussed in this paper have already been discussed more subtly in SJP, though with different conclusions. This paper cites only one author. This would only be acceptable under extraordinary circumstances.

Furthermore, there is an imbalance in the paper. More than $\frac{1}{2}$ of the paper is devoted to comparing the view it puts forward to the epistemicism (here called agnosticism) put forward by Timothy Williamson. On the other hand, the positive view put forward in this paper is underdescribed. For example, the paper says we “must” add a second negation (p. 7, l. 2). But why we must do so is not explained.

The paper makes a title issue of a distinction between vagueness and graduality, but I do not think it does a good job of making clear what turns philosophically on this distinction, and it is almost immediately dropped. The paper also makes an issue of presenting its case in terms of disjunctions rather than conditionals (p. 5), but this also does not seem to make much difference in the rest of the paper.

By the way, is ‘graduality’ a word?