Abstract

Virtually every account of knowledge makes knowledge factive; thus, no one can know that p when p is false. Contextualism in epistemology is for many an appealing solution to scepticism because it promises to explain the intuitive force of the sceptic’s argument while maintaining that our ordinary knowledge ascriptions are true. In this paper, I argue that contextualism cannot consistently claim that our everyday knowledge ascriptions are true while respecting scepticism and preserving factivity. In order to claim that our everyday knowledge ascriptions are true while respecting scepticism and preserving factivity, the contextualist must either beg the question against the sceptic or allow for instances when the factivity of knowledge is violated.