#\$%&'(\$)&*!+,**&-!."!.#-!'.%(-\$!(/.\$.',/!010)('0!,0!)2(!,%(&!)2&)!

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0#+(-,.-!9(,\$47!\%(0,-(0!0.'(!.9:(/)7!)2\&)!.9:(/)!'#0)!0#-(*1!9(!/&+&9*(!."!/.$"(--,\$4!&\$!(3(\$!4-(\&)(-!+*(\$),)#%(!."!9(,\$45")4.5")
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@,-&-%!0)&-)0!)2,0!+&00&4 (!91!(C+*&,\\$,\$4!)2&)! ' &\$!,0! .")(\$!/.\$"#0(%!91!)2(! %(0,-(0!2(!"((*05!B2,0!/.\$"#0,.\$7!2(!/.\$),\$#(07!,0!/�(%!91!)2(!"&/)!)2&)! man desires "being&! 10!0)&)(0! ."!9(,\$4!&-(!-&)2(-!2&-%!).!/.\$/(+)#&*,D(! from thin air, humans rely on fnding examples as seen in other humans, +,/E,\$4!.#)!,\$%,3,%#&*07!82.!&-(!+(-/(,3(%!&0!2&3,\$4!&!/.'+&-&),3(*1!9())(-! 0)&)(!."!9(,\$47!&0!0.J/&**(%!'.%(*05!10!',',-1!,0!.")(\$!)2(!0,'+*(0)!8&1!).!&/2,(3(!)2(!0&'(!-(0#*)0!&0!&\\$.)2(-!+(-0.\$7!,\$%,3,%#&*0!)2(\$!"((*!&\\$!,\$0),\$/)#&*!#-4(!).!,',)&)(!)2(!'.%(*0!)2(1!.90(-3(!,\\$!.-%(-!).!&/2,(3(!)2(! 0&'(!2,42(-!0)&)(0!."!9(,\$45!B2,0!',',-1!,0!82&)!#*),'&)(*1!/-(&)(0!)2(!%(0,-(!".-!.9:(/)0!)2&)!2#'&\$0!"((*7!&0!8(!+-.:(/)!)2(!0#//(00!."!'.%(*0!.2)...).!)2(!.9:(/)0!)2&)!2(1!+.00(005!K,',*&-*17!,"!&!'.%(*7!82.!&\$!,\$%,3,%#&*!

).!&\$!,\$%,3,%#&*!.90(-3,\$4!&! ' .% (*5\"!B2-.#42!)2,0!(C& ' +*(7!8 (!/&\$!0 ((!)2 (! 8&1!,\$!82,/2!&**!,)(' 0!4&,\$!)2(,-!%(0,-&9,*,)1!)2-.#42!)2(!*(\$0!."! ' , ' (),/!%(0,-(7!9.)2!".-!)2(!,\$%,3,%#&*0!82.!4&,\$!)2(!%(0,-(!).!.9)&,\$!)2(' 7!&\$%!".-!)2.0(!82.!&*-(&\%1!+.00(00!)2(' 5

6,)2!)2,0!,%(&! ."! ', '(),/!%(0,-(!,\$! ',\$%7!8(!/&\$!-((3&*#&)(!)2(! -(&0.\$0!)2&)!8(!&**!%(0,-(!.9:(/)0!,\$!.#-!%&,*1!*,3(05!!!/.''.\$!(C&'+*(! that we can discuss is the increasingly puzzling—from a purely utilitarian point of view—desire for watches. In many modern societies cell phones are ubiquitous, and on the screen of every cell phone is a digital clock that /&\$!)(**!)2(!), ' (!&0!&//#-&)(*1!&0!&\$1!8&)/2!.\$(!/&\$!9#15!X(0+,)(!)2,07! 2.8(3(-7!,)!,0!0),**!&!/.''.\$!0,42)!).!0((!,\$%,3,%#&*0!9#17!.-!.)2(-8,0(! 02.8!%(0,-(!".-7!8&)/2(05!Y\$(!',42)!&-4#(!)2&)!8&)/2(0!&-(!0),**!#0("#*7!)&\$%!)2(-(".-(!%(0,-&9*(7!&0!), '(J)(**,\$4!,\$0)-#'(\$)0!%#(!).!&!0(\$0(!."!)2(,-!,\$/-(&0(%!-(*,&9,*,)15!LI!8&)/2!,0! '#/2!*(00!*,E(*1!),.!-#\$!,#)!."!9&))(-1! over the course of a day than a phone.) However, this argument falls fat $82(\$! .\$(!/.\$0,\%(-0!2.8!^*.\$4!\&!'.\%(-\$!+2.\$(!/\&\$!-\#\$!.\$!,)0!9\&))(-17!)$ /. ' + . #\$% (%! 91!)2(! 8,% (0+-(&%! &3&,*&9,*,)1! . "! 9&))(-1!9&\$E0!)2&)! "#-)2(-! ,\$/-(&0(!+2.\$(00!*.\$4(3,)15!Y\$(!',42)!&*0.!&-4#(!)2&)!8&)/2(0!+-.3,%(!))#),*,)1!,\$!)2(!0(\$0(!)2&)!)2(1!&-(!&))&/2(%!).!.\$(\(\infty\)!.\$(\(\infty\)!.\$(\(\infty\)!.\$(\(\infty\)!.\$(\(\infty\)!.\$(\(\infty\)!.\$(\(\infty\)!.\$(\(\infty\)!.\$(\(\infty\)!.\$(\(\infty\)!.\$(\(\infty\)!.\$(\(\infty\)!.\$(\(\infty\)!.\$)2(-(".-(!8,**!))... &*8&10!9(!.\$!.\$(00!+(-0.\$!82(\$!\$((%(%5!B2,0!&-4#'(\$)7!2.8(3(-7!"&,*0! to take into account that phones have become guite small and light in -(/(\$)!1(&-07!&\$%!2&3(!&*0.!9(/.'(!3,-)#&**1!(00(\$),&*!).!'.0)!+(.+*(0)!)+-."(00,.\$8*!85%!0./,8*!*,3(05!=.-!)2(0(!-(80.\$07!,)!,0!-8)2(-!#\$*,E(*1!)28)!)2(!&3(-&4(!+(-0.\$!,0!(3(-!8,)2.#)!)2(,-!+2.\$(7!82()2(-!,)!,0!9(/�(!)2(1! \$((%!).!9(!&9*(!).!0+(&E!8,)2!9#0,\$(00!/*,(\$)0!&)!&!'.'(\$)0!\$.),/(7!.-! 9(/�(!)2(1!(\$:.1!0(\$%,\$4!)(C)! '(00&4(0!).!)2(,-!"-,(\$%0!)2-.#42.#)! the day. A fnal frequent argument made in defense of watches' utility is)2&)!)2(1!&-(!"&02,.\$!&//(00.-,(07!9#)!)2,0!&-4#'(\$)!,07!,\$!,)0(*"7!.\$(!)2&)! 0#++.-)0!)2(!,%(&!."!','(),/!%(0,-(5)))

;\$!"&02, \$7!%,""(-(\$)!0)1*(0!(C,0)7!&\$%!(&/2!."!)2(0(!0)1*(0!)(\$%0!).!9(!/.\$\$(/)(%!L.-!&)!*(&0)!+(-/(,3(%!&0!/.\$\$(/)(%!).!&!/(-)&,\$!*,"(0)1*(!&\$%!4-.#+!."!+(.+*(5!1!0#,)!&\$%!),(!/.'9,\$(%!8,)2!&\$!(*(4&\$)!%-(00!8&)/2!4,3(0!.\$(!)2(!&++(&-&\$/(!."!&!9#0,\$(00'&\$7!82,*(!+.*1(0)(-!02.-)0!&\$%!&!02,-)!+&,-(%!8,)2!&!-#44(%!%,4,)&*!8&)/2!',42)!4,3(!.\$(!)2(!&++(&-&\$/(!as sporty or as an outdoorsman. By adhering to specifc styles of fashion, .\$(!,0!'&)/2,\$4!)2(,-!&++(&-&\$/(!).!.\$(!.-!'.-(!4-.#+0!."!,\$%,3,%#&*05!10!,\$%,3,%#&*0!%-(00!)2('0(*3(07!)2(-(!,0!*,))*(!-(&0.\$!)2&)!.\$(!8.#*%!%(0,-(!and subsequently choose to appear similar to a group unless they wished).!9(!&00./,&)(%!8,)2!,)5!B2,0!%(0,-(%!&00./,&),.\$!'#0)!,0(*"!9(!%#(!).!0.'(!positive perceived characteristic—or state of being, present in members of the group—as no logic exists in the idea of an individual wanting to be

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\&00.\ /,\&)\ (\%!\ 8,)2!\ 4-.\ \#+0!\ )2\&)!\ )2\ (!\ 0\&'\ (!\ ,\$\%,3,\%\#\&^*!\ +(-/\ (,3\ (0!\ \&0!\ \#\$^*,E\&9^*\ (!\ .-!^*\&/E,\$4!\ 3,-)\#\ (5!\ B2,0!\ \%\ (0,-(!)\ .!\&00.\ /,\&)\ (!\ 8,)2!\ \&\$\%!\ 9\ (!\ 0\ (\ \$\&!\ \&+\&-)!\ ."!\ \&!/\ (-)\&,\$!4-.\ \#+!,0!,\$!,)0!3\ (-1!\ (00\ (\$/\ (!\&!\%\ (0,-(!)\ .!\ ,\ ',)\&)\ (!)2\ (!,\$\%,3,\%\#\&^*0!\ ."!\ said\ group,\ and\ therefore\ fts\ quite\ nicely\ with\ the\ idea\ of\ mimetic\ desire.\ ;\$!)2,0!8\ \&17!8\ (!/\&\$!0\ (\ (!)2\&)!\ '\ ,\ '\ (),/!\%\ (0,-(!.\ ""\ (-0!\&!+(-"\ (/)^*1!0\#,)\&9^*\ (7!,"!\$\ .)!\ )
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2.8 (3(-/!/&\$\$.)!9(!:#0)!&\$1)2,\$49!;"!)2,0!8&0!)2(!/&0(!)2(-(!8.#"%!9(!",))"(!+.,\$)!,\$!/.\$),\$#,\$4!.\$(\(0)!\(\%\/**\),.\$7!&0! '&\$1!:.90!/&\$!9(!".#\$\%!8,)2.#)!&!/.**(4(!\%,+*. '&5!;\\$0)(\&\%'!8!0)#\(\\$)\(0)!\\(0,-(\%!+-."(00,.\$! '#0)!,\\$0)(\&\%!9(!.\$(!)2\&)!)2(1!2\&3(!0. '(2.8!/2.0(\\$!".-!)2('0(*3(05!;)!,0!,\\$!)2,0!,\(\&!)2\&)!)2(!)2(.-1!."!', '(),/!\(0,-(!/\&\\$!.\$)/(!&4\&,\\$!9(!\&++*,(\%5!=.-!\&\\$!,\\$\%,3,\%#\&*!).!\8\&\\$)!.!\&E(!\#+!\&!+-."(00,.\\$!".-!)2(!-(0)!."!)2(,-!*,3(0!)2(1! '#0)!0((!)2\&)! profession in one (or both) of two ways. The frst way an individual might /2..0(!)2(.-!\%(0,-(\%!+-."(00,.\\$!.0!).!+./E!.\\$(!)2\&)!\8.#*\%!+-.3\%(!)2('!

).!8&\$)!).!)&E(!#+!&!+-."(00,.\$!".-!)2(!-(0)!."!)2(,-!",3(0!)2(1! '#0)!0((!)2&)! profession in one (or both) of two ways. The frst way an individual might /2..0(!)2(,-!%(0,-(%!+-."(00,.\$!,0!).!+,/E!.\$(!)2&)! 8.#*%!+-.3,%(!)2('! with a fnancial abundance that they wish to obtain. If obtaining wealth 8&0!)2(!-(&0.\$!9(2,\$%!.\$(0)!4.&*7!)2(\$!,)!/&\$!9(!0&,%!)2&)!.\$(!0((0!0.'(!

8&0!)2(!-(&0.\$!9(2,\$%!.\$(\(\text{\text{!0}}\!4.\&^7!)2(\\$!,)!/\&\\$!9(!0&,\%!)2\&)!.\$(!0((0!0.'(!enviable state of being in the affuent that they wish to experience as well, \&\\$\!)2(-(".-(!\&/)!).!, ',)\&\)(!)2(0(!,\\$\%,3,\%#\&^105!B2,0!,\%(\&!,0!.\\$(!)2\&)!'\&E(0!\&!\&100.\/,\&105!!\&\\$!!!/M\\$!-!4(!!()2\&(-!)--39(.\\$(2(!D1978974>>()2(2(!((/MC1D974>>\&!))2.\&100.\/))))))

what are the implications of this conclusion? The answer to this question comes in two parts, the frst of which pertains primarily to individuals. By &//(+),\$4!)2(!)2(.-1!."!','(),/!%(0,-(!&0!&\$!(C+*&\$&),.\$!".-!9(2&3,.-7! .\$%.3,%#&*0! 8 . #*%! 9(! &9*(!) . ! 9(/. ' (! ' . - (! / . \$0/, . #0*1! &8&-(! . "!)2(,-! (0,-(0!).!4&,\$!0)&)(0!."!9(,\$4!)2-.#42!,',)&),.\$5!B2,0!4-(&)(-!&8&-(\$(00!)."!9(,\$4!)2-.#42!,',)&)8.#*%!&**.8!)2(!,\$%,3,%#&*07!,"!)2(1!/2.0(!).!%.!0.7!).!9(4,\$!).!)&,*.-!)2(,-! +#-0#,)0!).!9())(-!&*,4\$!8,)2!)2(,-!)-#(!4.&*[!)2&)!,07!&/2,(3,\$4!)2(!%(0,-(%! 0)&) (!."!9(,\$45!;\$!%.,\$4!0.7!-&)2(-!)2&\$!+#-0#,\$4!&\$1)2,\$4!&\$%!(3(-1)2,\$4! +.00(00(%! 91! &! '.%(*7!,\$%,3,%#&*0! ',42)!,\$0)(&%!/2..0(!).!0(*(/),3(*1! +#-0#(!.\$*1!)2.0(!)2,\$40!)2&)!2&3(!&!*,E(*,2..%!."!&/)#&**1!/.\$"(--,\$4!)2(! desired state of being seen in the model. In this way, individuals might fnd)2('0(*3(0!0+(\$%,\$4!*(00!), '(!&\$%! '.\$(1!)2&\$!)2(1!.)2(-8,0(!8.#*%7!&\$%! +(-2&+0!)2(1!'&1!(3(\$!4&,\$!'.-(!0&),0"&/),.\$!"-.'!)2(!.9:(/)0!&\$%!/.\$/(+)0!)2(1!0),**!/2..0(!).!+#-0#(5! | %%,)..\$&**17!91!/.\$/(\$)-&),\$4!("".-)0!.\$!)2(! 4.8*!."!&/2,(3,\$4!&!9())(-!0)&)(!."!9(,\$47!-&)2(-!)2&\$!&//#'#*&),\$4!'&)(-,&*! and conceptual goods, individuals might fnd themselves improving their lives more significantly or more efficiently than they otherwise would have. B2#07!&//(+),\$4!','(),/!%(0,-(!/.#*%!9-,\$4!8,)2!,)!&!4-(&)(-!/.\$0/,.#0\$(00!)of the goals of one's behavior and could therefore lead to tangible benefts ".-!,\$%,3,%#&*05

The second part of the answer to this question considers the consequences of accepting mimetic desire as an explanation for behavior ,\$! &! 9-. &% (-! 0 (\$0 ([!)2&)!,07! 2.8!,)! ',42)! &"" (/)! 0./,()1! &0! &! 82.*(5! Y\$! $\&!0./,()\&^*!0/\&^*(7!)2(!, '+^*,/&),.$0!."!\&/E\$.8^*(%4,\$4!', '(),/!%(0,-(!-(^*,(0!))))$ +-, ' &-,*1! .\$! .\$(!,%(&F!)2(!&9,*,)1!).!+-. ' .)(!+.0,),3(!)-&,)0!)2-.#42.#)!&! 0./,()15! B2(! &%3(\$)! ."!)(/2\$.*.4,(0! 0#/2! &0! -&%, .7!)(*(3,0, .\$7! &\$%!)2(!,\$)(-\$()!9-.#42)!8,)2!)2('!(C+.\$(\$),&*!,\$/-(&0(0!,\$!)2(!&'.#\$)!."!2#'&\$! (C+.0#-(! &\$!,\$%,3,%#&*! /&\$! 9(!0#9:(/)(%!).!)2-.#42.#)!)2(,-!*,3(05! M1! -('.3,\$4!%,0)&\$/(!&0!&!9&--,(-7!)2(0(!)(/2\$.*.4,(0!&**.8!,\$%,3,%#&*0!).!0((7! *,0)(\$!).7!&\$%!(3(\$! ' (()!/.#\$)*(00!+(.+*(!)2&)!)2(1!.)2(-8,0(! ',42)!\$(3(-! 2&3(!E\$.8\$!(C,0)(%!M1!,\$/-(&0,\$4!)2(!\$#'9(-!."!+(.+*(!)2&)!&\$!,\$%,3,%#&*! /&\$!E\$.8!."7!)2(0(!)(/2\$.*.4,(0!&*0.!&**.8!".-!&\$!,\$/-(&0(!,\$!)2(!\$#'9(-! $."!+(.+*(!)2\&)!\&\$!,\$\%,3,\%\#\&^*!/\&\$!+(-/(,3(!\&0!+.00(00,\$4!2,42(-!0)\&)(0!."!)))$ 9(,\$4!)2&\$!)2('0(*"5!;\$!)2,0!8&17!)2(0(!)(/2\$.*.4,(0!/&\$!/�(!,\$/-(&0(0! ,\$!)2(!\$# ' 9(-!."!+(.+*(!,\$%,3,%#&*0!%(0,-(!).!, ',)&)(7!&\$%!,)!,0!2(-(!)2&)!8(! see the potential for societal beneft.

 $\begin{array}{l} 10! + -(3, .\#0^*1!\%, 0/\#00 (\%!)2(!)2(.-1!.."!','(),/!\% (0,-(!/\&\$! (C+^*\&,\$!)\% (0,-(!".-!'\&)(-,\&^*!4...\%0!\&0!8 (^{**}!\&0!/..\$/(+)07!\&\$\%!)2(-(".-(!/\&\$!9(!\#0 (\%!).!(C+^*\&,\$!)2(!\% (0,-(!)..!\&\%..+)!/2\&-\&/)(-!)-\&,)0!..-!9 (2&3,..-0!91!,\$\%,3,\%\#\&^*05!6,)2!)2,0!,\% (\&!,\$!',\$\%!,"!)2 (0 (!) (/2\$..*.4, (0!8 (-(!\#0 (\%!)..!2,42^*,42)!\&\$\%!9-,\$4!\&))(\$),..\$!).!+(..+^*(!82..!('9.\%1!/2\&-&/)(-,0),/0!)2\&)!8 (!\&0!\&!0../,()1!0 ((!&0!good and beneficial, then they would represent fantastic opportunities to 0+-(&\%!)2(0(!0&'(!/2&-&/)(-,0),/0!,\$!&!\$\&)#-&^*!&\$\%!0(*"J+(-+()\#&),\$4!8\&15!). \end{array}$