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Allegory of the Cave

Following my reading of Plato's Allegory of the Cave I came to the realization that photography is prone to being used to capture "perfect" moments that don't reflect the true nature of reality just as the shadows on the walls of the cave don't actually portray the reality of their shapes. For example, most people on Instagram only capture and post images that portray happiness and success in order to appear as though their lives are "perfect". More often than not, these photos are exaggerated and staged making us believe and fall in love with a fake reality, such as the case of the cave dwellers.

However, when someone that has seen the truth tries to convince us that these photographs and realities are manufactured, that in reality many social media celebrities are depressed and unfulfilled, we refuse to believe them. Oftentimes, getting frustrated with them trying to change our minds, eventually killing their voice and refusing to listen anymore. Our perception of a photograph can be completely manipulated without us even knowing since the photograph doesn't have a voice to speak back to us.