

Names are Not Rigid

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This claim is established by relying on the trivial observation that the same name may be used to name different people. The problem this creates has been noticed by Kripke, and he tried to reply to it in the 1980 *Preface to Naming and Necessity*, but his explanation fails. Other attempts to overcome the difficulty – by indexing names, by individuating names according to their reference, and more – are examined and rejected as well. It is doubtful whether the concept of rigidity should play any role in describing our modal discourse.