

Title	Casper
Director	Brad Silberling
Date	1995
Area	Early Modern Philosophy
Theme	Descartes - dualism
Plot Summary	Based on the cartoon character. Casper the friendly ghost befriends a young girl, Kat (Christina Ricci) who has moved into a house haunted by three other, rather unfriendly ghosts. The film has a number of instances of the paradox that Dennett identifies in Cartesian/dualistic accounts of the human being as a combination of immaterial mind and material body i.e. how can 'mind stuff' both elude all physical measurement and yet control the body. He illustrates this paradox by reference to Casper, who can pass unaffected through walls and yet is able to manipulate material objects.
Key Scenes	Casper cooks breakfast for the girl, manipulating eggs, saucepans etc, and carries a glass of orange juice to her. Nonetheless when they touch, Casper's hand goes right through the girl's. [32.42 – 35.00] Casper pulls the girl along behind him, but then passes through a wall (she doesn't). [59.11 – 59.20]
Relevant Text	Descartes, Meditation 6 Daniel Dennett, Consciousness Explained, ch. 1