**Abstracta are Causal**

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(1) *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* caused many Americans to support abolition.

P1: (1) is true.

P2: If (1) is true, then some abstracta are causally efficacious.

C: Some abstracta are causally efficacious.

**OC**: An object o causes an effect iff

there is a causal explanation of the form ‘e, because c’**,** where e is a sentence that describes the effect and c is a sentence that describes an event that causes the effect, such that o is a part of that event and c *relevantly* refers to o (where c relevantly refers to o iff the reference to o adds to the explanatory value of the causal explanation).

Cliff-notes version of **OC**:

An object o causes an effect iff o is a causally relevant part of an event that causes the effect