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We prove existence and uniqueness of solutions to boundary value problems and obstacle problems for degenerate elliptic and parabolic, linear, second-order partial differential operators with partial Dirichlet boundary conditions using new a version of the Perron method. These existence and uniqueness results have applications to questions regarding the existence and uniqueness of solutions to European and American-style option pricing problems for an asset price process modeled by a degenerate diffusion (such as the Heston process). (Received June 28, 2013)