

Business Value and Business Values: All that Glitters is Not Gold

Wittenberg 2017 Research Conference
June 29, 2017

Business in Society? Two Narratives



1931

ADOLF A. BERLE*

I. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Pioneer work usually does (and invariably should) come in critical risk-over a generation later. By that time, the author is usually dead. I am not, and find the experience quaint.

Appreciating the subtle flattery implied in the title—and in being considered "folklore" in the text—something more than courteous passivity is indicated. It is nice to be credited with having asked the right questions in 1932. But I can not escape the feeling that it is also incumbent on lawyers and scholars to come up occasionally with the right, or at least with viable, answers.

Folklore is commonly considered legend rather than description. Later generations, criticizing, did not live through the period that produced the original work. Professor Manne and his contemporaries did not live through World War I and the decade of the twenties, and the crash of 1929, culminating in the breakdown of the American economic system in 1933. They have not experienced a corporate and financial world without the safeguards of the Securities and Exchange Commission, without systemization and enforced publicity of corporate accounting, without (more or less) consistent application of antitrust laws, without discouragement of financial pyramiding, and which tolerated conflicts of interest to a degree unthinkable now. They have not experienced a banking, credit, and currency system unguided by the reorganized Federal Reserve Board. Least of all have they lived in a political-economic world in which great corporations were not consistently held by active public opinion to public responsibility. Naturally, books reflecting the conditions then prevailing seem "folklore" to them, as the tales of Marco Polo and the travels of Herodotus seemed myths to their readers. Historical research later usually verifies—and I think would verify in respect to my own work—that what is later taken as folklore was a more or less accurate account of existing historical conditions.

Prediction is another story. Some, at any rate, of the extrapolations made in 1931 by Dr. Means and myself have not come true. It would, I think, be fair to acknowledge that we had something to do with this. Some of us went into that phase of active government known historically as the "New Deal." We did our level best to prevent those predictions from being realized. The "grandfather clause" embodying the death sentence for unduly

* This article is a reprint of Manne, "The 'Higher Criticism' of the Modern Corporation," appearing in this issue, 62 *COLUMBIA L. REV.* 399 (1962).

1932

HARVARD LAW REVIEW

VOL. XLV MAY 8, 1932 NO. 7

FOR WHOM ARE CORPORATE MANAGERS TRUSTEES?

AN individual who carries on business for himself necessarily enters into business relations with a large number of persons who become either his customers or his creditors. Under a system based on private ownership and freedom of contract, he has no duty to conduct his business to any extent for the benefit of such persons; he conducts it solely for his own benefit, and owes to those with whom he deals only that which he can get out of such bargains as he may make with them.

If the owner employs an agent or agent of his own, the situation is only slightly different. The enterprise is still conducted for the benefit of the owner, and the customers and creditors have no right to complain against the agent even though he actually transacts business with them. The agent is bound in the receipts of the enterprise to act for the benefit of the owner. He, however, is not bound to act for the benefit of the customers and creditors, but only to act for the benefit of the owner.

Substitute now for the owner a group of persons, the owners, as well as the agent, the corporate enterprise, making the persons selected by the owners the

Organization Science... The Corporate Objective Revisited... Joseph E. Sweeney... Andrew C. Miles... The main social contract and corporate contract of 1931 and 1932 had supposed that in the presence of a social contract, and during the life of the enterprise, the corporate contract was not to be broken... The main social contract and corporate contract of 1931 and 1932 had supposed that in the presence of a social contract, and during the life of the enterprise, the corporate contract was not to be broken...

2004

Organization Science... Stakeholder Theory and "The Corporate Objective Revisited"... R. Edward Freeman, Andrew C. Wicks, Bethan Patena... Stakeholder theory began with an assumption that firms are essentially and inevitably cost of doing business... Stakeholder theory began with an assumption that firms are essentially and inevitably cost of doing business...

VS.

2009

EXCHANGE

Green Management Matters Regardless

Executive Overview... Green is a reality that a new consensus exists for green management, not only among investors but among business school students... Green is a reality that a new consensus exists for green management, not only among investors but among business school students...

VS.

1970s

The Social Responsibility of Business Is to Increase Its Profits!

When I hear businessmen speak eloquently about the "social responsibilities of business in a free-enterprise system," I am reminded of the wonderful line about the Frenchman who discovered at the age of 70 that he had been speaking prose all his life. The businessmen believe that they are defending free enterprise when they declaim that business is not concerned "merely" with profit but also with promoting desirable "social" ends that business has a "social conscience" and takes seriously its responsibilities for providing employment, eliminating discrimination, avoiding pollution and whatever else may be the catchwords of the contemporary crop of reformers. In fact they are — or would be if they or anyone else took them seriously — preaching pure and unadorned socialism. Businessmen who talk this way are unwitting puppets of the intellectual forces that have been undermining the basis of a free society these past decades.

The discussions of the "social responsibilities of business" are notable for their analytical looseness and lack of rigor. What does it mean to say that "business" has responsibilities? Only people can have responsibilities. A corporation is an artificial person and in this sense may have artificial responsibilities, but "business" as a whole cannot be said to have responsibilities, even in this vague sense. The first step toward clarity in examining the doctrine of the social responsibility of business is to ask precisely what it implies for whom.

Presumably, the individuals who are to be responsible are businessmen, which means individual proprietors or corporate executives. Most of the discussion of social responsibility is directed at corporations, so it will follow if I shall mostly neglect the individual proprietors and speak of corporate executives.

In a free-enterprise, private-property system, a corporate executive is an employee of the owners of the business. He has direct responsibility to his employers. This responsibility is to conduct the business in accordance with their desires, which generally will be to make as much money as possible while conforming to the basic rules of the society, both those embodied in laws and those embodied in custom.

Ralph Nader
Mark Green
Joel Seligman

vs. Taming the Giant Corporation

W · W · NORTON & COMPANY · INC · NEW YORK

"First They Ignore You...": THE TIME-CONTEXT DYNAMIC AND CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY... Peter Bratton, Kaitlin Watkins... "The thing goes on, then they get it up, then they get it, then they get it..."

2011

CSR Stuck in a Logical Trap

A RESPONSE TO PETER FRILAND AND SANDRA WADDOCK'S "FIRST THEY IGNORE YOU...": THE TIME-CONTEXT DYNAMIC AND CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY... Anand Kamath... "The thing goes on, then they get it up, then they get it, then they get it..."

VS.

1. Published in The New York Times Magazine, September 13, 1970. Copyright © 1970 by The New York Times Company. Reprinted by permission of The New York Times Syndicate, Paris, France.

Organization Science... The Corporate Objective Revisited... Joseph E. Sweeney... Andrew C. Miles... The main social contract and corporate contract of 1931 and 1932 had supposed that in the presence of a social contract, and during the life of the enterprise, the corporate contract was not to be broken...

Organization Science... Stakeholder Theory and "The Corporate Objective Revisited"... R. Edward Freeman, Andrew C. Wicks, Bethan Patena... Stakeholder theory began with an assumption that firms are essentially and inevitably cost of doing business...



A Fallacy of Composition

The error of concluding that something that is true of the whole because it is true of some or all of its parts.

Theory of the firm \neq Theory of business

It is impossible to fully understand the nature of business in society by looking at the descriptive principles that undergird the creation of a firm.



Toward a theory of business



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ABSTRACT

What is the purpose of business? While most agree that business minimally involves the creation of value, a blurred double image of value haunts our discussion of purpose. The image of what counts as value for a single firm is laid atop an image of what counts as value for business in general. These two images cannot match. Indeed, the resulting conceptual blurriness is a classic example of a composition fallacy. We should never mistake the properties of a part for the properties of the whole. A theory of the firm is ill equipped to handle the many expectations we hold for business practice. As such, we seek to establish the beginnings of a theory of business, one that is both empirical and normative. Offering four central propositions about the purpose, accountability, control and success of business, we close with a consideration of several important theoretical issues and practical opportunities that await us in the years ahead.

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Introduction

“Law is to justice, as medicine is to health, as business is to ____.”

We have asked business students and colleagues alike to fill in the blank above. The first reaction is always one of awkward silence. People are surprised that the answer does not roll off the lips. There is always a sense in the room that we should know the answer and yet, we do not. Then the answers come. A cluster of people will focus on profit, money, and wealth. Others, more expansively, will talk about value creation and prosperity. Still others will focus on the likes of coordination, exchange, production, and innovation. Some will take a decidedly macro perspective and speak about commerce, the economy, collective well-being, and society. And finally, some will shift gears and focus not on wealth but greed, not prosperity but power, not

well-being but oppression. One colleague in a recent Academy of Management symposium memorably said “our fucked-up global economy.” This exercise points out three challenges when we think about the nature of business. One is that we grapple with its purpose. The second is that we have a hard time disentangling our thinking about a single business enterprise from business more broadly, an agglomeration of those enterprises in their institutional and historical context. And finally, we know that business may not be an unalloyed good. All of these tensions are on display when we appraise our thinking about the place of business in society.¹

What is the purpose of business? While most agree that the purpose of business minimally involves the creation of value, today's discussion is haunted by a blurred double image of value. The image of what counts as value for a single firm is laid atop an image of what counts as value for

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¹ As we consider the purpose of business in light of our understanding of medicine and law, we will sidestep the thorny issue of whether or not the practice of business constitutes a profession. Yes or no, the question of purpose still matters.

Theory of Business: Purpose, Accountability, Control, and Success

P1: The **purpose** of business is to optimize collective value.

P2: Business is **accountable** to those who affect and are affected by its activities, those in the present, past, and future.

P3: Business **control** must prohibit any assault on participants' dignity.

P4: Optimized collective value is the mark of business **success**.

– “optimized subject to clearing the Dignity Threshold”

A Normative Theory

Dignity* -- an Intrinsic Value prescribing that each Business Participant be treated with respect, compatible with each person's inherent worth.

Dignity Threshold -- the minimum level of respect accorded to each Business Participant necessary to allow the agglomeration of Benefit to qualify as Business Success.



*Dignity: “an inner transcendental kernel of inestimable value” (Rosen, 2012: 9, 70).

- **Business:** a form of cooperation involving the Production, Exchange and Distribution of goods and services for the purpose of achieving Collective Value.
- **Business Participant:** someone who affects or is affected by the pursuit of Collective Value. Some Business Participants are identified through their membership in entities that affect or are affected by the pursuit of Collective Value.
- **Positive Value:** a reason for acting where the object of the act is seen as worthy of pursuit.
- **Negative Value:** a reason for acting where the object of the act is seen as aversive.
- **Intrinsic Value:** a Positive Value whose worth does not depend on its ability to achieve other Positive Values.
- **Benefit:** the contributions made by Business to the satisfaction of a Business Participant's Positive and Intrinsic Values, net of any aversive impact on the satisfaction of those same values.
- **Collective Value:** the agglomeration of the Business Participants' Benefits, again, net of any aversive Business outcomes.
- **Dignity:** an Intrinsic Value prescribing that each Business Participant be treated with respect, compatible with each person's inherent worth.
- **Dignity Threshold:** the minimum level of respect accorded to each Business Participant necessary to allow the agglomeration of Benefit to qualify as Business Success.
- **Business Success:** optimized Collective Value, optimized subject to clearing the Dignity Threshold. Equifinality assumed, alternative states of Business Success are possible.

WORK

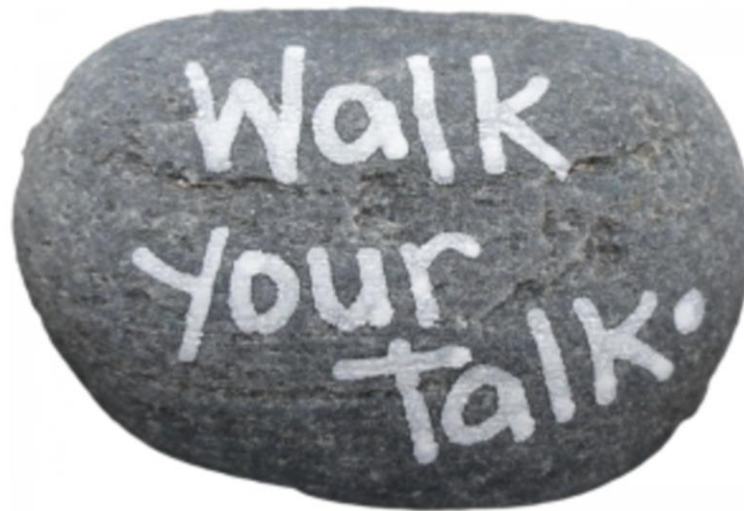
HARD

STAY

HUMBLE

Clearing the Dignity Threshold

Dream as if
you'll live
forever, live
as if you'll die
today.



BRUSH
YOUR
TEETH






Value, the *sine qua non* of business

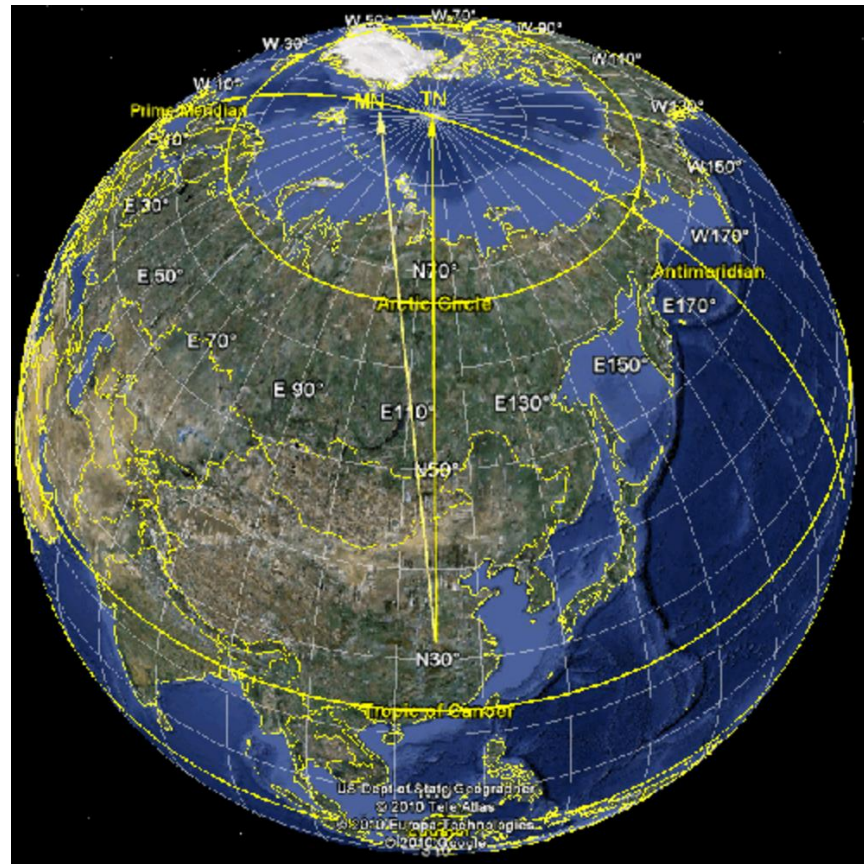
Stakeholder	Resource	Value in exchange: Stakeholder POV	Value in exchange: Firm POV
Investors	Capital	Shareholder value	Market value
Customers	Consumption	Use value	Consumer value
Employees	Talent	Extrinsic (and intrinsic) reward	Labor value
Suppliers	Factor inputs	Exchange value	Value-add
Community	A setting	Optimized collective value	License to operate

Our values are revealed in the imagination, creation, exchange, and distribution of business value.

Something is Awry

Stakeholder	Resource	The “is” of market value ≠ the “ought” of market value	Reform Ideas
Investors	Capital	Self-dealing, greed, market bubbles, and crashes	
Customers	Consumption	Consumerism	<p>The End(s) of Marketing and the Neglect of Moral Responsibility by the American Marketing Association</p> <p>David Glen Mick</p>
Employees	Talent	Alienation and exploitation	
Suppliers	Factor inputs	Cost and price pressure	
Communities	A setting	Race to the bottom	<p>THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE LAW MARKET</p> <p>J. HASKELL MURRAY*</p>

Glitter and Gold: Non-Intrinsic and Intrinsic Values



Loss Aversion and the Allure of Business Value, Non-Intrinsic Values

ECONOMETRICA

VOLUME 47

MARCH, 1979

NUMBER 2

PROSPECT THEORY: AN ANALYSIS OF DECISION UNDER RISK

By DANIEL KAHNEMAN AND AMOS TVERSKY¹

This paper presents a critique of expected utility theory as a descriptive model of decision making under risk, and develops an alternative model, called prospect theory. Choices among risky prospects exhibit several pervasive effects that are inconsistent with the basic tenets of utility theory. In particular, people underweight outcomes that are merely probable in comparison with outcomes that are obtained with certainty. This tendency, called the certainty effect, contributes to risk aversion in choices involving sure gains and to risk seeking in choices involving sure losses. In addition, people generally discard components that are shared by all prospects under consideration. This tendency, called the isolation effect, leads to inconsistent preferences when the same choice is presented in different forms. An alternative theory of choice is developed, in which value is assigned to gains and losses rather than to final assets and in which probabilities are replaced by decision weights. The value function is normally concave for gains, commonly convex for losses, and is generally steeper for losses than for gains. Decision weights are generally lower than the corresponding probabilities, except in the range of low probabilities. Overweighting of low probabilities may contribute to the attractiveness of both insurance and gambling.

“A salient characteristic of attitudes to changes in welfare is that **losses loom larger than gains**. The aggravation that one experiences in losing a sum of money appears to be greater than the pleasure associated with gaining the same amount” (p. 279).

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Cheating to get ahead or to avoid falling behind? The effect of potential negative versus positive status change on unethical behavior



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ABSTRACT

This research examines how being faced with a potential negative versus positive status change influences peoples' willingness to ethically transgress to avoid or achieve these respective outcomes. Across four studies people were consistently more likely to cheat to prevent a negative status change than to realize a positive change. We argue that what accounts for these results is the enhanced value placed on retaining one's status in the face of a potential negative change. Taken together, these findings offer a dynamic perspective to the study of status and ethics and contribute to knowledge of the situational factors that promote unethical behavior.

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“Across four studies people were consistently more likely to **cheat to prevent a negative status change** than to realize a positive change” (p. 172).

After all, Much is at Stake

Stakeholder	Resource	Value in exchange: Stakeholder POV	Value in exchange: Firm POV
Investors	Capital	Shareholder value	Market value
Customers	Consumption	Use value	Consumer value
Employees	Talent	Extrinsic (and intrinsic) reward	Labor value
Suppliers	Factor inputs	Exchange value	Value-add
Community	A setting	<u>Optimized</u> collective value	License to operate

Collective Value: the agglomeration of the Business Participants' Benefits, **net of any
aversive Business outcomes.**

Even Higher Stakes



Tondo slum in Manila, Philippines, 2014. Photo: Dewald Brand, Miran for Oxfam

AN ECONOMY FOR THE 1%

How privilege and power in the economy drive extreme inequality and how this can be stopped



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The Centre for the Study of Existential Risk is an interdisciplinary research centre within the University of Cambridge dedicated to the study and mitigation of risks that could lead to human extinction or civilisational collapse.



Toward a theory of business



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ABSTRACT

What is the purpose of business? While most agree that business minimally involves the creation of value, a blurred double image of value hinders our discussion of purpose. The image of what counts as value for a single firm is laid atop an image of what counts as value for business in general. These two images cannot match. Indeed, the resulting conceptual bluriness is a classic example of a composition fallacy. We should never mistake the properties of a part for the properties of the whole. A theory of the firm is ill equipped to handle the many expectations we hold for business practice. As such, we seek to establish the beginnings of a theory of business, one that is both empirical and normative. Offering four central propositions about the purpose, accountability, control and success of business, we close with a consideration of several important theoretical issues and practical opportunities that await us in the years ahead.

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Dignity Threshold -- the minimum level of respect accorded to each Business Participant necessary to allow the agglomeration of Benefit to qualify as Business Success.

Optimism: Taboo Trade-Offs

The Psychology of the Unthinkable:
Taboo Trade-Offs, Forbidden Base Rates, and Heretical Counterfactuals

Philip E. Tetlock, Orië V. Kristel, S. Beth Elson,
and Melanie C. Green
Ohio State University

Jennifer S. Lerner
Carnegie Mellon University

Five studies explored cognitive, affective, and behavioral responses to proscribed forms of social cognition. Experiments 1 and 2 revealed that people responded to taboo trade-offs that monetized sacred values with moral outrage and cleansing. Experiments 3 and 4 revealed that racial egalitarians were least likely to use, and angriest at those who did use, race-tainted base rates and that egalitarians who inadvertently used such base rates tried to reaffirm their fair-mindedness. Experiment 5 revealed that Christian fundamentalists were most likely to reject heretical counterfactuals that applied everyday causal schemata to Biblical narratives and to engage in moral cleansing after merely contemplating such possibilities. Although the results fit the sacred-value-protection model (SVPM) better than rival formulations, the SVPM must draw on cross-cultural taxonomies of relational schemata to specify normative boundaries on thought.

“Money may be a universal solvent in economic theory, but most people manifestly want to cordon off certain spheres of human activity from its corrosive powers.”

“People who function like intuitive scientists or economists in one setting can be quickly transformed into intuitive moralists-theologians when provoked by assaults on sacred values.”

Deciding for Others Reduces Loss Aversion

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We study risk taking on behalf of others, both when choices involve losses and when they do not. A large-scale incentivized experiment with subjects randomly drawn from the Danish population is conducted. We find that deciding for others reduces loss aversion. When choosing between risky prospects for which losses are ruled out by design, subjects make the same choices for themselves as for others. In contrast, when losses are possible, we find that the two types of choices differ. In particular, we find that subjects who make choices for themselves take less risk than those who decide for others when losses loom. This finding is consistent with an interpretation of loss aversion as a bias in decision making driven by emotions and that these emotions are reduced when making decisions for others.

Keywords: risk taking; loss aversion; experiment

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R

De-biasing for
a Better World...

Economics Letters 114 (2012) 102–105



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Risk-taking for others under accountability

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ABSTRACT

We let subjects take risky decisions that affect themselves and a passive recipient. Adding a requirement to justify their choices significantly reduces loss aversion. This indicates that such an accountability mechanism may be effective at debiasing loss aversion in agency relations.

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17 Years On...

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<https://doi.org/10.1257/aerp20171110>

Sacred versus Pseudo-Sacred Values:
How People Cope with Taboo Trade-Offs

By PHILIP E. TETLOCK, BARBARA A. MELLERS, AND J. PETER SCOBLIC

“We propose viewing people as varying along a continuum of interest in seeking out caveats: from hard-core Machiavellians for whom nothing is sacred and who do not bother pretending otherwise, to Batson’s moral hypocrites, to more altruistic souls who make moderate-to-big sacrifices to uphold the normative order. **Most of us are arguably better classified as semi-hypocrites,** neither fanatical defenders of deontic principles nor devoid of sentimental attachments to these principles. **We just realize, at some level of awareness, that even the most precious things can become too expensive to defend**” (pp. 97-98).



“Is nothing sacred?”

An even more interesting conclusion when seen in light of “his” 2016 study

Judgment and Decision Making, Vol. 11, No. 1, January 2016, pp. 40–47

The price of not putting a price on love

A. Peter McGraw* Derick F. Davis† Sydney E. Scott‡ Philip E. Tetlock§

“Our inquiry reveals that, when a purchase is symbolic of love, people are reluctant to seek cost saving options and thus spend more money than is necessary given the availability of lower cost (yet equivalent quality) items in the marketplace” (2016:45).

* Love ≈ engagement rings and cremation containers

Nevertheless


Phenom Cogn Sci (2008) 7:51–66
DOI 10.1007/s11097-007-9058-y

REGULAR ARTICLE

Moral masquerades: Experimental exploration of the nature of moral motivation

C. Daniel Batson

Available online at www.sciencedirect.com

 ScienceDirect

Research in Organizational Behavior 30 (2010) 153–173

RESEARCH IN
ORGANIZATIONAL
BEHAVIOR



The ethical mirage: A temporal explanation as to why we are not as ethical as we think we are

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Article

A Meta-Analytic Review of Moral Licensing

Irene Blanken¹, Niels van de Ven¹, and Marcel Zeelenberg¹

Personality
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1–19
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Review

Ethically adrift: How others pull our moral compass from true North, and how we can fix it

Celia Moore^{a,*}, Francesca Gino^b

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Dignity and Moral Foundations Theory

PERSONALITY PROCESSES AND INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES

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0022-3514/11/\$12.00 DOI: 10.1037/a0021847

Liberals and Conservatives Rely on Different Sets of Moral Foundations

Jesse Graham, Jonathan Haidt, and Brian A. Nosek
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Mapping the Moral Domain

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University of Virginia

Ravi Iyer
University of Southern California

Spassena Koleva and Peter H. Ditto
University of California, Irvine

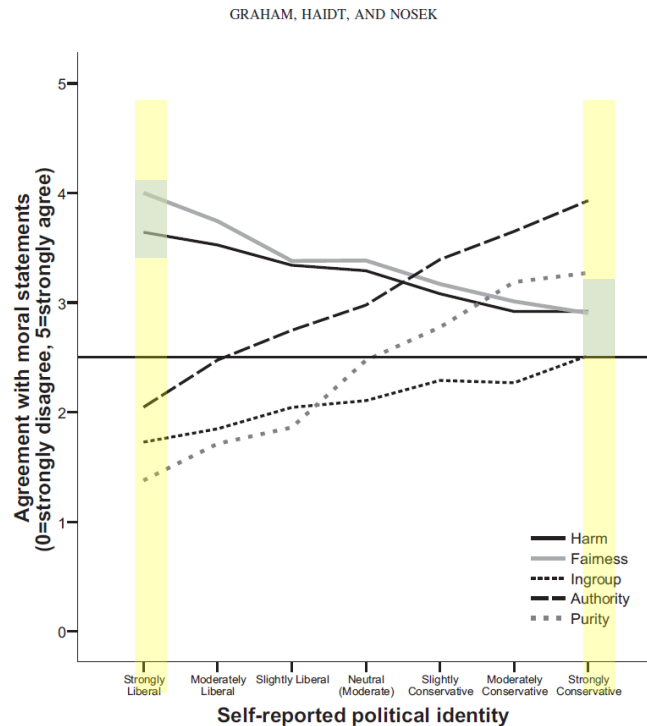


Figure 3. Agreement with moral statements across political identity, Study 2. The horizontal line at 2.5 indicates division of agreement and disagreement (2 indicates slight disagreement and 3 indicates slight agreement).

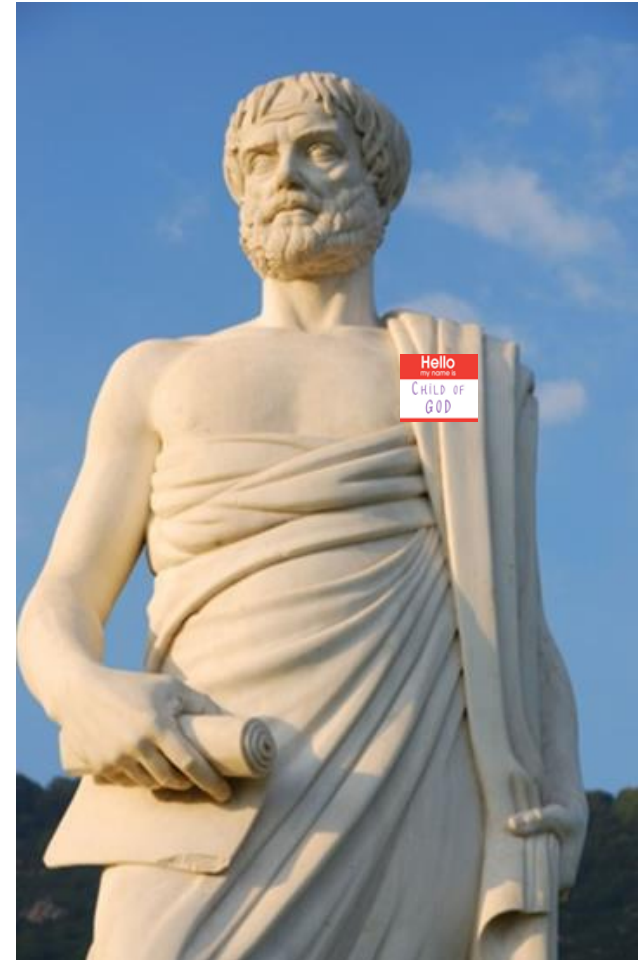
3. Gender differences in foundation endorsement. The MFQ reveals interesting gender differences as well. In the large international data set collected at YourMorals.org (49,428 women; 68,812 men), women score higher than men on Harm (mean difference = .47), $t(118238) = 99.16$, $p < .0001$, $d = 0.58$; Fairness (mean difference = .16), $t(118238) = 37.75$, $p < .0001$, $d = 0.22$; and Purity (mean difference = .16), $t(118238) = 25.10$, $p < .0001$, $d = 0.15$ —with men just barely higher on Ingroup and Authority (mean differences $< .06$, d s < 0.06). Women were more concerned than men about Harm, Fairness, and Purity, even controlling for political ideology. As the effect sizes show, these gender differences were much stronger than the differences between Eastern and Western cultures. The gender patterns make sense in light of previous research on empathy (Davis, 1983), egalitarianism (Arts & Gelissen, 2001), and disgust sensitivity (Druschel & Sherman, 1999), but they also show an important divergence from the political patterns in that Purity is here grouped with Harm and Fairness, rather than Ingroup and Authority. Here too the finer resolution and broadened scope of MFT allowed us to find and describe differences in moral personality not possible before.

“Homo Economicus”

[Political economy] does not treat of the whole of man's nature as modified by the social state, nor of the whole conduct of man in society. **It is concerned with him solely as a being who desires to possess wealth**, and who is capable of judging of the comparative efficacy of means for obtaining that end. ... **It makes entire abstraction of every other human passion or motive**... With respect to those parts of human conduct of which wealth is not even the principal object, to these Political Economy does not pretend that its conclusions are applicable.

...John Stuart Mill (1844). On the definition of political economy. *Essays on Some Unsettled Questions of Political Economy*: <http://www.econlib.org/cgi-bin/searchbooks.pl?searchtype=BookSearchPara&id=mIUQP&query=modified+by+the+social+state>

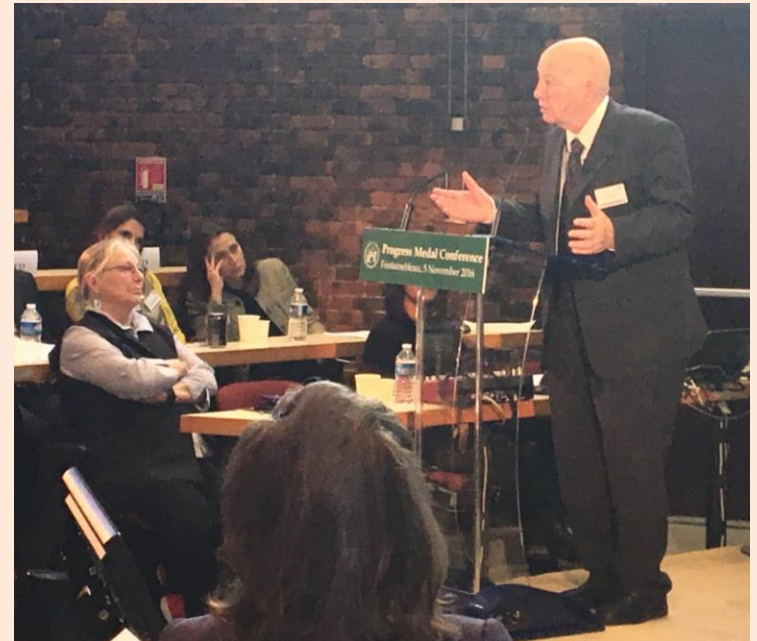
“Homo Practicus”



Consider Business Schools

A university is only incidentally a market. It is more essentially a temple - a temple dedicated to knowledge and a human spirit of inquiry. It is a place where learning and scholarship are revered, not primarily for what they contribute to personal or social well-being but for the vision of humanity they symbolize, sustain, and pass on. ... Higher education is a vision, not a calculation. It is a commitment, not a choice. Students are not customers; they are acolytes. Teaching is not a job; it is a sacrament. Research is not an investment; it is a testament.

...Jim March (2003: 206)



First Things First: Address the Secular in our Sacred World

* Academy of Management Review
2011, Vol. 36, No. 2, 215-224.

2010 Presidential Address

EMBRACING THE SACRED IN OUR SECULAR SCHOLARLY WORLD

JAMES P. WALSH
University of Michigan

I am honored to speak to you as our sixty-fifth president. Sitting down to prepare my remarks, I realized that I could talk with you about absolutely anything. I decided to talk about us. I hate to say it, but I fear that we are not all that we can be. Please don't worry—this will not be another presidential address that will call on us to be relevant. We are plenty relevant. The fact is this should be our Golden Age. But something is very amiss. Something is keeping us from being all that we can be. As you can tell from my title, I think that "something" is our reaction to what I am calling our secular world. My goal here is to at least provoke us—and who knows, maybe even to inspire a few of us—to live our lives differently.

This essay complements the address I gave at the August 2010 Academy of Management meeting in Montreal. The differences are two: (1) I am now able to formally connect my ideas with other work on this theme, and (2) I have the opportunity to share a few ideas that time did not permit when I delivered the address. I want to express a great deal of sincere gratitude before I begin. First of all, to my wife, Sue Ashford, thank you for being there for the past thirty years. There is no way in the world that I would have had this opportunity if it were not for you. To our three kids—Allie, Hannah, and Maddy—what can I say? Thanks for being you. Thanks, too, to my extended family for all of your love and support (especially to Karin and Kim for coming all the way from Napa to Montreal to hear what I had to say). To all of my friends—including everyone from Briancliff Manor, who help to make us all who we are—thank you for standing by me for so many years. And, finally, thanks to Paul Adler, Sue Ashford, John Chamberlain, Michael Cohen, Marianne Eiders, Michael Gordon, Anne-Wil Haring, Joshua Margolis, Dave Mayer, Alan Meyer, Lance Sandelands, Corby Shakespeare, Maxim Sytch, Judith Walla, Karl Weick, Joe White, Amy Wrasniewski, and my colleagues in the Ross School's Management and Organizations department and our Hoemer Seminar for your conversations with me about this address, and to Lenora Berdiah, Mary Christianson, Regina Fitzpatrick, Ira Fried, Juliana Immonselli, Patti Lamparter, Corey Seaman, Sean Sullivan, Matt Suppe, and Nancy Urbanowicz for your help with the presentation. I am a lucky man. An audio of the address (along with the slides) is posted on my own and the Academy of Management's website. I will not offer specific web addresses here since I can assure the links will change with time. They should be easy enough to find.

My address comprises three parts. I will briefly talk about why I think this should be our Golden Age. I will then take a look at our secular world and share what gives me pause. In so doing, I will talk about the audit culture that has emerged around us, our problematic reaction to it, and the consequences of that reaction. And I will close by reminding us of the sacred nature of our work. But I will not just leave it at that. I want to share an idea or two about how to move forward. Some of us will need to summon some courage if we are to live in a world where we can thrive.

OUR GOLDEN AGE

This really should be our Golden Age. Viewed from any historical perspective, we can see that business has emerged as a central feature of life in contemporary society—and maybe is the central feature of our lives today. People may debate whether we live in a society of organizations (Parrow, 1991) or a society defined by markets (Davis, 2009), but it is clear that business rivals the church and the state as a central aspect of modern life. Indeed, business sensibilities now inform how we conduct our governments' business (Kelman, 2007) and operate our civil society (Austin, Gutiérrez, Ogiastri, & Reficco, 2007). Perhaps unbelievably, there are now over 12,000 schools of business worldwide (AACSB International, 2010). Indeed, the Academy of Management's membership growth reveals this kind of scale. Now on the cusp of 20,000 members, our size has nearly doubled in the past ten years. Moreover, our growth rate outside the United States is now three times what it is inside the United States (see Figure 1). I do not have a worldwide estimate of business school graduates at hand, but the U.S. Department of Education (2009) tells us that we are educating nearly half a million business students each year (see Figure 2). Of course, those students go on to touch the lives of many millions more.

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2011, Vol. 36, No. 2, 215-224.

2010 Presidential Address

ADDRESSING THE SECULAR IN OUR SACRED SCHOLARLY WORLD

JAMES P. WALSH
University of Michigan

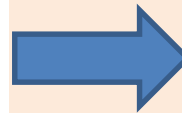
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The Rankings (2001 – 2016):

Addressing the Secular in our Sacred Scholarly World

Financial Times Rank

		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
University of Pennsylvania: Wharton	INSEAD	7	6	6	4	8	8	7	6	5	5	4	6	6	5	4	1
Harvard Business School	Harvard Business School	2	2	2	2	1	2	3	5	3	3	3	2	1	1	1	2
Stanford Graduate School of Business	London Business School	8	9	7	4	5	5	5	2	1	1	1	4	4	3	2	3
University of Chicago: Booth	University of Pennsylvania: Wharton	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	3	3	4	3	4
Columbia Business School	Stanford Graduate School of Business	3	3	4	7	4	3	3	4	6	4	4	1	2	2	4	5
MIT: Sloan	Columbia Business School	5	3	3	3	3	4	2	3	4	6	7	5	5	5	6	6
INSEAD	University of California at Berkeley: Haas	14	15	15	22	13	16	25	32	31	28	25	14	12	11	10	7
London Business School	University of Chicago: Booth	4	3	5	4	6	6	6	9	11	9	12	12	10	9	9	8
Northwestern University: Kellogg	MIT: Sloan	6	6	10	9	13	10	14	7	9	8	9	7	9	8	8	9
New York University: Stern	University of Cambridge: Judge	NR	22	30	34	42	35	15	10	17	21	26	26	16	16	13	10
IMD	Northwestern University: Kellogg	9	10	9	11	11	17	19	24	21	22	21	16	13	15	14	11
UCLA: Anderson	IE Business School	31	35	26	15	19	12	11	8	6	6	8	11	13	12	12	12
Dartmouth College: Tuck	IMD	11	14	13	12	13	14	13	14	15	14	13	19	12	20	13	13
University of California at Berkeley: Haas	HKUST Business School	48	47	59	69	44	47	NR	17	16	9	6	10	12	8	14	14
Cornell University: Johnson	HEC Paris	52	67	62	53	37	22	18	18	29	18	18	18	21	21	16	15
University of Michigan: Ross	Iese Business School	24	25	18	13	12	13	16	11	12	11	9	9	7	7	7	16
Carnegie Mellon: Tepper	China Europe International Business School (Ceibs)	NR	92	90	53	22	21	11	11	8	22	17	24	15	17	11	17
Duke University: Fuqua	Yale School of Management	20	12	12	13	9	11	10	16	19	16	15	20	14	10	17	18
Western Ontario: Ivey	New York University: Stern	10	8	8	8	9	7	8	13	10	13	15	17	19	17	18	19
Yale School of Management	University of Michigan: Ross	16	23	25	30	16	14	19	27	23	28	24	29	30	23	24	20
University of North Carolina: Kenan-Flagler	Duke University: Fuqua	18	19	15	20	18	27	23	28	22	20	20	15	18	17	21	21
University of Virginia: Darden	Dartmouth College: Tuck	13	11	11	10	7	8	9	15	13	13	18	19	16	20	23	22
University of Maryland: Smith	Esade Business School	64	76	83	71	35	27	24	21	18	19	21	33	22	22	20	23
Iese Business School	IIM-Ahmedabad	N															24
University of Texas at Austin: McCombs	SDA Bocconi	3															25
Vanderbilt University: Owen	Chinese University of Hong Kong Business School	N															26
Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University	University of Virginia: Darden	2															27
Emory University: Goizueta	University of Oxford: Saïd	3															28
Georgetown University: McDonough	Indian School of Business	N															29
University of Rochester: Simon	Nanyang Business School	N															29
IE Business School	Cornell University: Johnson	1															31
University of Southern California: Marshall	National University of Singapore Business School	8															32
Washington University: Olin	Carnegie Mellon: Tepper	1															33
University of Oxford: Saïd	UCLA: Anderson	1															34
York University: Schulich	Imperial College Business School	6															35
Alliance Manchester Business School	City University: Cass	7															37
McGill University: Desautels	Alliance Manchester Business School	3															38
University of California at Irvine: Merage	Shanghai Jiao Tong University: Antai	N															39
SDA Bocconi	The Lisbon MBA	N															40
Warwick Business School	University of North Carolina: Kenan-Flagler	2															41
Cranfield School of Management	Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University	2															42
Indiana University: Kelley	Renmin University of China School of Business	N															43
AGSM at UNSW Business School	Georgetown University: McDonough	2															44
Purdue University: Krannert	University of Hong Kong	N															44
University of South Carolina: Moore	Warwick Business School	4															46
University of Toronto: Rotman	University of Texas at Austin: McCombs	2															47
SMU: Cox	Fudan University School of Management	N															47
HKUST Business School	University of Washington: Foster	N															49
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Mannheim Business School	N															49
University of Edinburgh Business School	University of Maryland: Smith	23	29	33	27	30	38	30	37	44	43	40	58	50	50	49	51

Foreign Rank Share

	Top 10	Top 11-20	Top 21-50
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2001	20%	20%	47%
2016	30%	60%	63%

European Rank Share

	Top 10	Top 11-20	Top 21-50
--	--------	-----------	-----------

2001	20%	10%	30%
2016	30%	30%	30%

Asian Rank Share

	Top 10	Top 11-20	Top 21-50
--	--------	-----------	-----------

2001	0%	0%	7%
2016	0%	20%	30%

Normative Theory?

“Bear the fate of the times as a man”



Our goal here is to begin to develop a conceptually robust theory of business. Again, it will be an empirical and normative theory. Well aware of the promise of value free science – and the scorn that may befall those who bring a consideration of values to science – we are nevertheless intent on developing a normative theory. Not mincing words, Weber (1922/1968, pp. 152, 155) pointed to the peril in our path:

Science today is a 'vocation' organized in special disciplines in the service of self-clarification and knowledge of interrelated facts. It is not the gift of grace of seers and prophets dispensing sacred values and revelations, nor does it partake of the contemplation of sages and philosophers about the meaning of the universe." He went on to say, "To the person who cannot bear the fate of the times like a man, one must say: may he rather return silently, without the usual publicity build-up of renegades, but simply and plainly. The arms of the old churches are opened widely and compassionately for him.

“The Fate of the Times?”

210 OXFAM BRIEFING PAPER

18 JANUARY 2016



Tondo slum in Manila, Philippines, 2014. Photo: Dewald Brand, Miran for Oxfam

AN ECONOMY FOR THE 1%

How privilege and power in the economy drive extreme inequality and how this can be stopped

62 people now own as much as half the world (3.6B – they own \$1.76 trillion).
The top 1% have more wealth than the other 99% combined.

“The economic system ‘works itself.’”

Coase (1937: 387)

- An economist thinks of **the economic system as being co-ordinated by the price mechanism** and society becomes not an organization but an organism.⁴ The economic system “works itself.”

⁴ See F.A. Hayek, “The Trend of Economic Thinking,” *Economica*, May, 1933.

Hayek (1933: 130)

- It is, of course, supremely easy to ridicule Adam Smith's famous "invisible hand " - which leads man " to promote an end which was no part of his intention." But it is an error not very different from this anthropomorphism to assume that the existing economic system serves a definite function only in so far as its institutions have been deliberately willed by individuals. ... we still refuse to recognise that the spontaneous interplay of the actions of individuals may produce something which is not the deliberate object of their actions but **an organism in which every part performs a necessary function for the continuance of the whole**, without any human mind having devised it.

The Continuance of the Whole?



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PERSPECTIVES

doi:10.1038/nature15425

Defining the Anthropocene

Simon L. Lewis^{1,3} & Mark A. Maslin¹

Time is divided by geologists according to marked shifts in Earth's state. Recent global environmental changes suggest that Earth may have entered a new human-dominated geological epoch, the Anthropocene. Here we review the historical genesis of the idea and assess anthropogenic signatures in the geological record against the formal requirements for the recognition of a new epoch. The evidence suggests that of the various proposed dates two do appear to conform to the criteria to mark the beginning of the Anthropocene: 1610 and 1964. The formal establishment of an Anthropocene Epoch would mark a fundamental change in the relationship between humanity and the Earth system.

Human activity has been a geologically recent, yet profound, influence on the global environment. The magnitude, variety and longevity of human face transformation and changes has led to the suggestion that we are at the beginning of a new geological epoch within the Anthropocene. The use of the term has rapidly spread since its publication in a paper published just over a decade ago¹ on the topic we launched: *The Anthropocene*. The case for a new geological epoch-scale time driven by causes as varied as massive and sustained volcanic eruptions, dominant causes of mass extinctions, human activity will probably be recorded for millions of years into epochs has begun².

Nevertheless, some question the geological time unit, formal criteria must be recorded in geological strata or marine sediment (see Box 1)



ENCYCLICAL LETTER

LAUDATO SI'

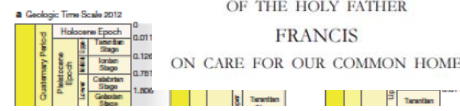
OF THE HOLY FATHER

FRANCIS

ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME



DOI: 10.1011/1530-6024.2307.00960.a



In this century a number of events could extinguish humanity. The probability of these events may be very low, but the expected value of preventing them could be high, as it represents the value of all future human lives. We review the challenges to studying human extinction risks and, by way of example, estimate the cost effectiveness of preventing extinction-level asteroid impacts.

KEY WORDS: Asteroids; catastrophic risk; cost-effectiveness analysis; discounting; existential risk;

Global Policy Volume 4, Issue 1, February 2013

Existential Risk Prevention as Global Priority

Nick Bostrom
University of Oxford

Abstract
Existential risks are those that threaten the entire future of humanity. Many theories of value imply that even relatively small reductions in net existential risk have enormous expected value. Despite their importance, issues surrounding human-extinction risks and related hazards remain poorly understood. In this article, I clarify the concept of existential risk and develop an improved classification scheme. I discuss the relation between existential risks and basic issues in axiology, and show how existential risk reduction (via the *maximin* rule) can serve as a strongly action-guiding principle for utilitarian concerns. I also show how the notion of existential risk suggests a new way of thinking about the ideal of sustainability.

Policy Implications

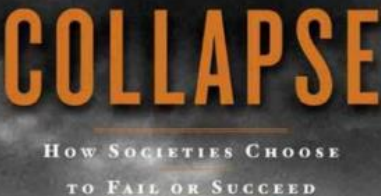
- Existential risk is a concept that can focus long-term global efforts and sustainability concerns.
- The biggest existential risks are anthropogenic and related to potential future technologies.
- A moral case can be made that existential risk reduction is strictly more important than any other global public good.
- Sustainability should be reconceptualized in dynamic terms, as aiming for a sustainable trajectory rather than a sustainable state.
- Some small existential risks can be mitigated today directly (e.g. asteroid) or indirectly (by building resilience and increasing our capacity to adapt) in this century. This will help mobilize a strong global coordination effort to address a wide range of existential risks.

It is the extreme magnitude of the small probability of existential catastrophe that makes it practically significant (Bostrom, 2003; Weitzman, 2009) and what we might call *natural* risks of thousands of years; thus it is not that any of them will do us in. This conclusion is buttressed by the fact that, such as volcanic eruptions, earthquakes,

Risk Analysis, Vol. 27, No. 3, 2007

Reducing the Risk of Human Extinction

Jason G. Matheny*



JARED DIAMOND
Author of *GUNS, GERMS, and STEEL*
Winner of the PULITZER PRIZE

