

Moral and immoral in economic quantification

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Key words: Quantifications, simplifications, formula, information, entropy, misinformation, opportunity, perception, quickness, delusion.

The paper attempts to be a pleading for statistics. Theoretically, in the economic space work and information anti-anthropocentric are important factors. I wonder whether these may not turn, through their doubtful quality, into real anthropocentric generating factors. I am referring here to un-work or superficial work, to the statistical information offered without responsibility to the public or the decision factors, and I am equally referring to the receipt of the statistical information, to the theoretical and practical training of those who receive, use and make decisions based on the statistical information. The tendency of excessive simplification and ignorance are real dangers in today's management at all levels.

Could there be something immoral in economic measurements and quantification? It is often said that statistics is a lie, an untruth, a delusion. Lies are dishonoring and deeply immoral, and are incriminated by both, religious and juridical norms. Where do these accusations against statistics come from? They derive from the obvious modern strive for excessive simplifications, from ignoring scientific rigor and from eluding theoretical principles by narrow pragmatic solutions. What is the critical point that shifts to economic thinking? In measurement: the formula. Who released it? Where and when was it released? By whom, where, when and how is it used? In quantification: aggregation and data systematization. We systemize and process data without asking ourselves how much of the economic and social content that we are studying remains in the shapes that we have built.