

On Ethics and Economics

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Abstract

In this elegant critique, Amartya Sen argues that welfare economics can be enriched by paying more explicit attention to ethics, and that modern ethical studies can also benefit from a closer contact with economics. Predictive and descriptive economics can be helped by making room for welfare-economic considerations in the explanation of behaviour. In this context, he explores the rationality of behaviour and pays particular attention to social interdependence and internal tensions within consequential reasoning.

Suggested Citation

Sen, Amartya, 1999. "[On Ethics and Economics](#)," [OUP Catalogue](#), Oxford University Press, number 9780195627619.

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