

Appendix B for

Are Economists Influenced By Their Moral Worldviews? Evidence From The Moral Foundations Of Economists Questionnaire

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Working Paper

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Download the working paper at <http://moraleconomist.com/>

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TABLE B1
Implied Political Ideology of Economists, by Self-Identified School of Economic Thought

	Progressive n = 45	Conservative n = 3	Libertarian n = 83
Neoclassical	12	2	44
Keynesian	16	0	12
New Institutional	11	0	7
Austrian	0	0	10
Did Not Respond	6	1	10

Note. —Figures represent the total number of economists within each school of thought and each political ideology.

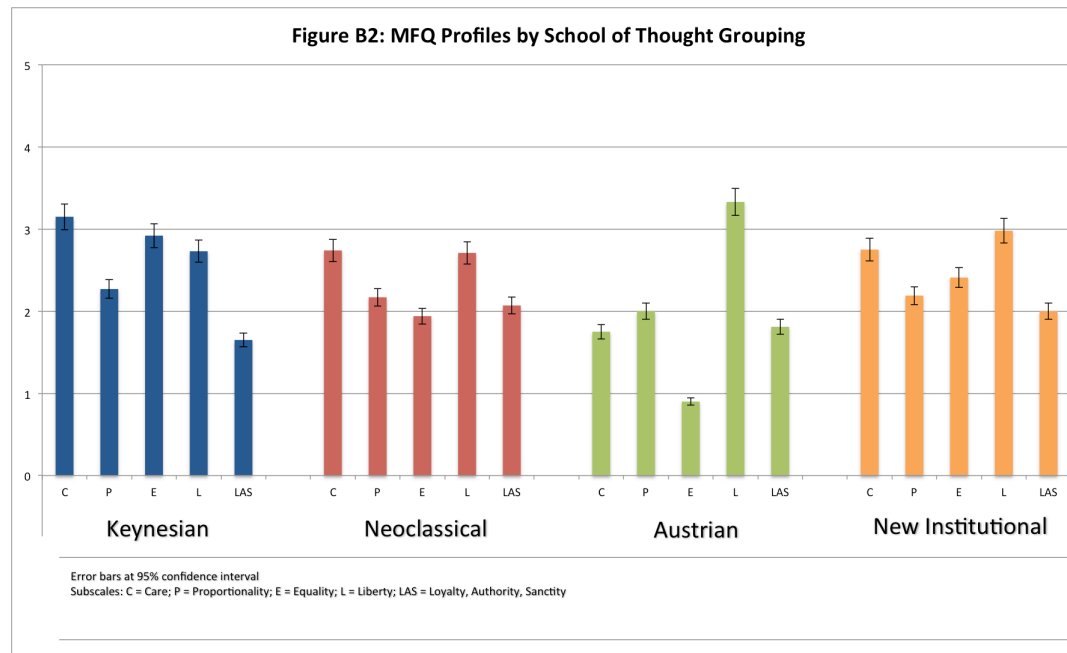


TABLE B5

Moral Judgments of Economists -- Scores on All Moral Foundation Propositions, Averages Organized by School of Thought

MFQ Subscale	Items	KYN	NC	AU	NIE
Care	Whether or not someone suffered emotionally	2.21	2.29	<u>1.20</u>	2.04
	Whether or not someone cared for someone weak or vulnerable	3.77	3.02	<u>1.80</u>	3.25
	Compassion for those who are suffering is the most crucial virtue.	3.92	2.92	<u>1.70</u>	3.07
	One of the worst things a person could do is hurt a defenseless animal.	2.71	2.72	<u>2.30</u>	2.65
Proportionality	Hard work doesn't generally bring success; it's more a matter of luck.	2.38	1.25	<u>1.10</u>	1.83
	Whether or not everyone is 'pulling their own weight.'	<u>1.90</u>	2.39	2.20	2.08
	Whether or not those who contribute more are rewarded more.	<u>2.54</u>	2.87	2.70	2.66
Equality	Whether or not everyone had an equal chance to succeed	3.84	3.18	<u>2.40</u>	3.55
	I think it's morally wrong that rich children inherit a lot of money while poor children inherit nothing.	3.15	1.86	<u>0.30</u>	2.37
	Ideally, everyone in society would end up with roughly the same amount of money.	1.78	0.78	<u>0.00</u>	1.32
Liberty	The individuals' needs and desires should come before the community's needs and desires.	1.66	2.41	3.90	2.25
	The government should do more to advance the common good, even if that means limiting the freedom and choices of individuals.	3.23	2.23	<u>0.60</u>	2.50
	People should be free to do dangerous and self-destructive things, as long as they don't put others at risk.	3.08	<u>2.54</u>	4.20	3.49
	Whether or not people were compelled to do things they didn't want to do	<u>2.94</u>	3.64	4.60	3.69
Loyalty, Authority, Sanctity (LAS)	Whether or not someone did something to betray his or her group	<u>2.31</u>	1.91	2.40	2.44
	I am proud of my country's history.	<u>2.43</u>	3.59	3.10	2.98
	Whether or not someone did something disgusting	1.91	1.82	<u>1.60</u>	1.98
	People should not do things that are disgusting, even if no one is harmed.	<u>0.76</u>	1.43	1.40	1.34
	I would call some acts wrong on the grounds that they are unnatural.	<u>0.23</u>	0.84	0.60	0.52
	Whether or not someone violated standards of purity and decency	2.20	2.29	<u>1.90</u>	2.68
	Whether or not someone showed a lack of respect for authority	0.99	1.66	<u>0.90</u>	1.24
	Whether or not an action caused chaos or disorder	<u>2.38</u>	3.05	2.60	2.86

Note. — School of Thought abbreviations: KYN (New Keynesian), NC (Neoclassical), AU (Austrian), NIE (New Institutional). Scores that are the strongest agreement on an item are in **bold**; scores that are the strongest disagreement on an item are underlined.

TABLE B8
Linear Regression: Moral Judgments Predicting Economic Judgments, by Economic Proposition (All betas)

	Standardized Betas							Model Line Regression R Squared
	Care	Proportionality	Equality	Liberty	LAS	Gender (Male)	Age	
Normative Propositions								
Reducing or limiting income inequality is not an appropriate role for the government. (*R)	-0.254**	0.051	-0.471***	0.153*	0.104	0.024	0	0.38
Everyone should have a right to affordable housing	0.201*	-0.23*	0.475***	-0.099	-0.124	-0.201*	-0.014	0.36
There should be social institutions that ensure at least a basic income for all	0.143	-0.021	0.431***	-0.094	-0.017	0.13	-0.04	0.26
Excise taxes should be used to limit the consumption of alcohol, tobacco, and other products that are harmful to users	0.193*	-0.111	0.268**	-0.302***	0.271**	0.028	-0.188*	0.28
Progressive Economics Factor								
Income inequality today is adversely affecting economic growth in the U.S.	0.28**	-0.05	0.38***	-0.147	-0.154	-0.102	-0.029	0.33
A single payer health care system operated by the federal government would improve economic efficiency by reducing health care costs.	0.244**	-0.069	0.472***	-0.112	-0.202*	-0.006	-0.054	0.38
Taken as a whole, government policies of the New Deal served to lengthen and deepen the Great Depression. (*R)	-0.314***	0.074	-0.298**	0.096	0.224*	0.083	-0.127	0.32
Fiscal austerity during a recession is harmful to economic growth in the long-run.	0.365***	-0.149	0.202*	-0.027	-0.173*	-0.129	0.198*	0.29
Increasing minimum wages typically benefits the current and future labor force on net.	0.273**	-0.109	0.333***	-0.124	-0.098	-0.066	-0.052	0.25
The persistence of poverty is primarily due to the existence of social welfare programs like the minimum wage and government housing assistance. (*R)	-0.376***	0.013	-0.241*	0.176*	0.17*	-0.039	-0.011	0.29
Fiscal austerity during a recession is harmful to economic growth in the short-run.	0.359***	0.046	0.247**	-0.126	-0.133	-0.095	0.208**	0.37
The persistence of poverty is primarily due to growing income inequality.	0.217*	-0.088	0.416***	-0.272***	-0.168*	-0.005	-0.063	0.34
Cutting current federal income tax rates would mean higher GDP in the long-run than without a tax cut. (*R)	-0.219*	-0.08	-0.307**	0.186*	0.002	-0.052	0.036	0.24
The current national debt level is adversely affecting the economy. (*R)	-0.089	0.194*	-0.392***	0.011	0.173	0.048	-0.094	0.21
Federal social safety nets (i.e. unemployment insurance, welfare, Medicaid) generally make the economy more efficient than would otherwise be the case in their absence	0.221*	-0.183	0.31**	-0.122	0.025	0.116	-0.124	0.18
The persistence of poverty is primarily due to a break down of the family unit	-0.081	0.085	-0.24*	0.123	0.397***	0.161*	0.015	0.27
Creative destruction is necessary for economic growth	-0.054	0.163	-0.153	0.075	0.034	0.164	-0.019	

Libertarian Social Policy Factor

Laws prohibiting U.S. companies from hiring undocumented workers (illegal immigrants) hurt businesses by increasing the price of labor	-0.12	0.091	0.136	0.12	-0.148	0.089	-0.109	0.09
Laws prohibiting the sale and consumption of marijuana are harmful to economic growth	-0.08	0.017	0.022	0.025	-0.251*	-0.004	-0.046	0.0
Deporting all undocumented workers (illegal immigrants) currently working in the U.S. would decrease economic growth on net	-0.025	-0.065	0.267*	0.057	-0.106	0.028	-0.017	0.07
Large balance of trade deficits have adverse effects on U.S. economic growth	0.088	-0.044	0.134	-0.066	0.163	-0.074	-0.066	

Neoclassical Principles Factor

Large federal budget deficits are typically harmful to the economy	-0.172	0.006	-0.187	0.184*	0.21*	0.127	-0.066	0.17
Well defined property rights are essential for economic growth	-0.013	-0.068	-0.171	0.244*	0.15	-0.052	0.032	0.10
The price system is a mechanism for communicating information and coordinating human action	-0.052	-0.062	-0.132	0.177	0.216*	0.137	-0.038	0.1

Note. — Correlations statistically significant at (*) 0.05%, (**) 0.01%, and (***) 0.001%. Items that loaded negatively on the factor analysis, indicated with “(*R)”, were reversed when calculating the subscale score such that all items were phrased in a left leaning manner. Higher scores are the Care and Equality foundations predict left leaning economic judgments on both normative propositions as well as the positive propositions on the Progressive Economics Factor.