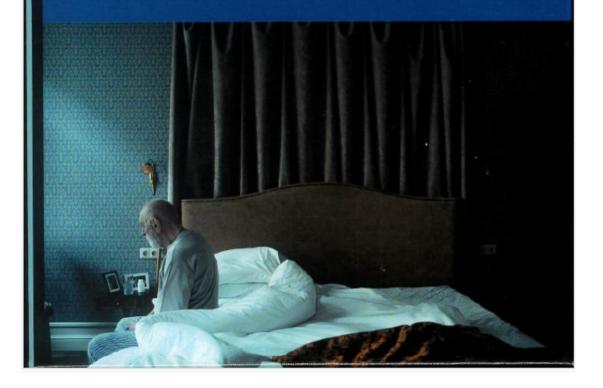


David Vázquez-Guzmán



Hellenic Roots of Justice and Inequality and a Jewish Ideological Alternative in Economic Science

By David Vázquez-Guzmán

This book first published 2023

Cambridge Scholars Publishing

Lady Stephenson Library, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE6 2PA, UK

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Copyright © 2023 by David Vázquez-Guzmán

All rights for this book reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the copyright owner.

ISBN (10): 1-5275-0995-8 ISBN (13): 978-1-5275-0995-5

CONTENTS

List of Figures and Tablesxi
Abstractxii
Acknowledgmentsxiv
General Introduction
Part I: Philosophical and Historical Discussions of Justice Chapter 1
Distributional Ethics in Social Sciences: Aristotle, Marx, and the Antisemitic View of Justice
1.1 Abstract
1.2 Introduction
1.3 Aristotle, a Rabbinic Marx, and the Sense of Injustice
I Aristotelian Pejorative View of Wealth
II Jewish Paradoxical Views of Wealth in Marx's Tradition 22
a) A Comparison with Ancient Jewish Tradition: Prudent
Men Could Be Rich
b) Protestantism and Rabbinic Theology Chastising Wealth 27
III Marx Racism and Further "Demonization" of Wealth
a) Marx's Loathed Criticisms on Jews' Money
b) Some of Marx's Legacies on Social Scientific Academic
Discourse
Chapter 2
Justice in Traditional Economics: The Hellenic Philosophical Legacy
and the Alternative Pragmatic Jewish Righteousness
2.1 Abstract
2.2 Introduction 42
Z.Z IIII/044041011

2.3 Differe	ent but the Same: Justice as Equality from Greece in Social
Scienc	es
I The	"Very" Marxists: Strict Egalitarians
a)	Historical Materialism that Was Put into Practice 45
0)	A Sketch of the Evolution of Socialism as a Concept 47
11 1ne	Kantian Marxists: Rawls
a)	Kawis in His Origins
0)	Rawis' Influence and Critique 52
c)	The "Universal" Rule and its Hellenic Non-Institutional
	Basis
a)	and Resources
III Util	itarianism and the Hedonic View of Justice
a)	"Hedonism for All" and its Critiques 50
0)	Quantitative Measurement of Justice on the Utilitarian System
IV Tran	ascendental-Utilitarian Marxism: Sen and His Capability
App	roach
2.4 The Old	Jewish Tradition Regarding the Problem of Inequality 67
1 An	Application of the Jewish Ideology: A "Proximate-fellow"
2.5 Conclus	zione 68
	sions
Chapter 3	73
Evolution and .	Application of the Jewish Tradition to Distributional
Justice	
3.1 Abstract	
3.2 Introduc	tion
3.3 Loday's	Jewish Tradition Based on an Influenced Rabbinic
Judaism	: History and Context
1 Paga	n (Hellenic and Persian) Context
II Mair	Stream Intellectual Judaism: Sadducees and Pharisees 79
III Helle	enic Judaism and Pharisee Legitimacy 80
5.4 The Rec	overing to Help Each Other from the Old Jewish
Tradition	1
on Ca	atholicism
11 Jesus	Is Loved or Contested, but not Much Is Done to Help
Other	rs

Н	eller	nic Roots of Justice and Inequality and a Jewish Ideological Alternative in Economic Science	ix
Ш	Th	e Institutional Role of Supervision	91
111	a)	The Transfers Were Designed to be Expedite and Local	92
		The Clear Idea of a Person in Need Was Known by	
	,	Officials	93
	0)	Transfers Were Supposed to Be Personal	
3.5 Cc		uding Remarks	
Part II: N	Met	hodological Discussions of Justice Approaches	
Chapter 4			. 102
Modern J	ustic	ce Distributive Approaches in Economic Methodology:	
A Pragma		[[[[[[[[]]]]]]] [[[[[[]]]]] [[[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[[]]] [[]] [[[]]] [[]] [[[]]] [[]] [
		act	. 102
4.2 In	trod	uction	. 103
		ional Definition and Value Judgements	
I		lue Judgments about Inequality	
II		rminology of Injustice: Poverty Measurement	
222		d Inequality	. 108
4.4 M		Distributive Justice Approaches in Economics	
I		aditional Theory and the Absence of Normative Equality	
		Result	
		Social Welfare Theory Critique	
		Traditional (Positive) Theorists Looking Down to	
	0)	"Normative" Theory	. 115
	(1)	The Unsatisfactory Intermediate: The Kaldor-Hicks	
	-)	Criterion	117
	1)	The Disputed Role of the Government	
II		ilitarianism, the Emotive Side and the Social Greatest	
11		ood	122
		Emotions and Utility Comparisons	
		Absence of Desert-based Principles in the Utilitarian	. 125
	0)	System	125
	c)	The Problem of the Aggregate Social Utility	
		Mathematical Representation of Utility and	. 120
	u)	Commensurability	127
111	M		
111		etaphysical Justice: Rawls et al	
		The Basic Rawls Rawls vs. Utilitarians: A Marxist Spirit	
	b)		
	c)	Critiques: Transcendentalism, Resources, Etc	. 133

Contents

х	Contents
4. 4.	IV The Basic Needs Approach (BNA) and its Capitalist Critique
Chapte Abstr 5. 5. 5. 5. 5. 5. 5. 5. 5. 5. 5. 5. 5.	ter 5
Chapte	er 6
Refere	ences and Bibliography

LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES

Figure 4-1. Classification of Distributive Justice Approaches	112
Figure 4-2. Efficiency and Social Optimality in a Two-person Economy	120
Figure 4-3. The Utilitarian View vs. the Difference Principle	132
Table 5-1. Enlarged View of Typology of Inequality Based on Wright (1987)	162

This book explores the philosophical foundations of what we today understand as "justice". Here we understand the present tendency in the world to see everything as a class struggle, yet the lack of effectiveness of that view in social arrangements, and for that, a renewed Jewish perspective is offered instead. The book argues that the classical understanding of equality as justice is tainted by an anti-Semitic portrayal of richness, which is completely rejected here. From an economic methodology perspective, it discusses how our present Hellenic view of equality does not do much to help those in need, and proposes a new mechanism of poverty alleviation based on generalized responsibility to help vulnerable neighbors, such as orphans, widows, aliens, the elderly, the sick and the oppressed, then putting the ordinary citizen at the center of social responsibility.

Dr David Vázquez-Guzmán is a Professor of Economics at the Autonomous University of Juarez City, Mexico. He obtained his PhD from the University of Stirling, UK, and specializes in economic topics related with methodology, theory, and human development, with special focuses on justice, rationality, and vulnerable groups. He has published several books and journal articles.

Cambridge Scholars Publishing



