

Version A

No Responsibility (this information was not given in the questionnaire)

Situation 1:

- (o) A small society has received a certain amount of money which can be used either to provide some help and assistance for a handicapped person or to further the education of an intelligent child. The child could receive a good education in languages and in natural sciences, let's say. The retarded person (person 1) is severely handicapped from birth. If the sum of money were used for her support (alternative x), she would be able to learn some very basic things, so that at least in certain areas of daily life she would no longer be totally dependent on the assistance from other people. Let the intelligent child be person 2; the investment into its education represents alternative y . It is not possible to split up the given amount.

Which alternative should be realized in your view, x or y ?

- (a) Imagine that the sum of money which could be used to help the handicapped person, is so large that, on the other hand, this amount would suffice for the education of not only person 2 but also a second child (person 3) who is even somewhat more intelligent than person 2. Person 3 would, therefore, benefit even a bit more from the education than person 2. Let y be the investment into the education of the two children and let x again stand for the support of the handicapped person.

Would you choose x or y under these conditions?

- (b) Imagine that if the money were used to finance alternative y it would be possible to educate still another child (person 4). The reason may simply be "economies of scale" or the fact that a talented teacher will be able to provide a good education for several children simultaneously. Let us assume that all the other characteristics of the situation remain as before.

Which alternative should be picked in your view, x or y ?

- (c) Add another child to the situation (person 5), who could also receive an instruction in languages and the natural sciences out of the given budget. Everything else remains the same.

Would you want x or y to be realized?

- (d_1) If up to this point you have always decided in favour of alternative x , could you imagine a situation, in which you would choose y after all (from the 5th, 6th, 7th, ... intelligent child onward? Or even later?), or would you always decide in favour of the handicapped person, i.e. alternative x ?
- (d_2) On which criteria did you base your decision? Please give a brief explanation.

Situation 2:

- (o) Imagine that due to an unexpectedly large profit of the Federal Reserve (or an unexpectedly large budgetary surplus, if you prefer), Government has the possibility to spend several billion euros either on environmental protection within its own territory (alternative y) or to spend that amount of money to finance an aid program against hunger in various countries of Subsaharan Africa (alternative x), which had been widely destroyed economically by a long-lasting drought. Given the available amount of money, the environmental program would aim at improving the current situation of the North Sea. This would primarily benefit the fishing industry and, perhaps to a somewhat lesser degree, the people who spend their vacation along the North Sea. Henceforth, these two groups are called “person 2”. Those who suffer from famine in Subsaharan Africa are “person 1”. Undoubtedly, both the fishermen and the vacationers in this country are, in terms of welfare, better off than the starving people in Africa, independent of whether alternative x or alternative y will be realized. We want to assume that either only x or only y can be realized, not both.

Which alternative should be chosen according to your view, x or y ?

- (a) Imagine now that the profit of the Federal Reserve (or the budgetary surplus) has turned out to be higher than anticipated originally. On the one hand, the fight against hunger could now be intensified, on the other the environmental program could be extended. The proposal is to improve the quality of the air in the neighbourhood of coal power plants. The group benefiting from this measure will be called “person 3”. We shall assume that this group will always be better off than groups 2 and 1 with respect to alternative y , and be definitely better off than group 1 with respect to alternative x . Alternative y again stands for environmental protection and x stands for relief of hunger (both programs would, of course, now be larger due to the higher level of financial resources).

Which alternative should be realized according to your view, x or y ?

- (b) Assume that it has become clear that “economies of scale” would occur in the environmental program, once alternative y should be realized. We postulate that a program for cleaner water in rivers should also be feasible which would benefit primarily those citizens of the country (group 4) who live close to the rivers (it

seems obvious that cleaner water in rivers would, among other things, increase the stock of fish). In other words, not only would groups 2 and 3 benefit from the environmental program but also an additional group. Alternative y again stands for the environmental program and x stands for the aid program for Sub-Saharan Africa.

Which program should be chosen now, x or y ?

- (c) Imagine that, given the financial resources, a further enlargement of the environmental program appears realistic. It has, for example, been found out that an additional program aiming at a reduction of traffic noise along the highways would be financially feasible. Through this investment, still another group of people (group 5) would experience an increase in its living conditions. We assume that group 5 is better off than all the other groups under alternative y and that it is at least better off than group 1 under alternative x .

Which alternative should now be realized according to your view, x or y ?

- (d_1) If up to this point you have always made a decision in favour of alternative x , could you imagine a situation, in which you would choose y after all? And how should y look like in your view, or would you always take a decision in favour of the aid program against hunger?
- (d_2) On which criteria did you base your decision? Please give a brief explanation.

Demographic Characteristics:

- (1) sex: (1 = female, 2 = male)

- (2) age:

- (3) Which of the following categories describes best the professional status of the family in which you grew up?

(1 = unskilled worker, 2 = skilled worker, 3 = craftsman,
4 = employee or civil servant in the public sector,
5 = employee in the private sector,
6 = self-employed)

- (4) subject of study: (1 = business administration, 2 = mathematics,
3 = economics, 4 = other)

- (5) Were you employed before starting with your studies?

(1 = yes, 2 = no)

- (6) How many percent of the citizens of your country do you expect to have, in the year 2010, a net-income lower than your own?

(1 = 5%, 2 = 25%, 3 = 50%, 4 = 75%, 5 = 95%)

Version B

Responsibility (this information was not given in the questionnaire)

Situation 1:

- (o) A small society has received a certain amount of money which can be used either to provide some help and assistance for a handicapped person or to further the education of an intelligent child. The child could receive a good education in languages and in natural sciences, let's say. The handicap of the retarded person (person 1) is due to an accident from participating in a dangerous sport (paragliding, let's say). If the sum of money were used for her support (alternative x), she would be able to learn some very basic things, so that at least in certain areas of daily life she would no longer be totally dependent on the assistance from other people. Let the intelligent child be person 2; the investment into its education represents alternative y . It is not possible to split up the given amount.

Which alternative should be realized in your view, x or y ?

- (a) Imagine that the sum of money which could be used to help the handicapped person, is so large that, on the other hand, this amount would suffice for the education of not only person 2 but also a second child (person 3) who is even somewhat more intelligent than person 2. Person 3 would, therefore, benefit even a bit more from the education than person 2. Let y be the investment into the education of the two children and let x again stand for the support of the handicapped person.

Would you choose x or y under these conditions?

- (b) Imagine that if the money were used to finance alternative y it would be possible to educate still another child (person 4). The reason may simply be "economies of scale" or the fact that a talented teacher will be able to provide a good education for several children simultaneously. Let us assume that all the other characteristics of the situation remain as before.

Which alternative should be picked in your view, x or y ?

- (c) Add another child to the situation (person 5), who could also receive an instruction in languages and the natural sciences out of the given budget. Everything else remains the same.

Would you want x or y to be realized?

- (d_1) If up to this point you have always decided in favour of alternative x , could you imagine a situation, in which you would choose y after all (from the 5th, 6th, 7th, ... intelligent child onward? Or even later?), or would you always decide in favour of the handicapped person, i.e. alternative x ?
- (d_2) On which criteria did you base your decision? Please give a brief explanation.

Situation 2:

- (o) Imagine that due to an unexpectedly large profit of the Federal Reserve (or an unexpectedly large budgetary surplus, if you prefer), Government has the possibility to spend several billion euros either on environmental protection within its own territory (alternative y) or to spend that amount of money to finance an aid program against hunger in various countries of Subsaharan Africa (alternative x), which had been widely destroyed economically by failures in cultivating self-bred grain. Given the available amount of money, the environmental program would aim at improving the current situation of the North Sea. This would primarily benefit the fishing industry and, perhaps to a somewhat lesser degree, the people who spend their vacation along the North Sea. Henceforth, these two groups are called “person 2”. Those who suffer from famine in Subsaharan Africa are “person 1”. Undoubtedly, both the fishermen and the vacationers in this country are, in terms of welfare, better off than the starving people in Africa, independent of whether alternative x or alternative y will be realized. We want to assume that either only x or only y can be realized, not both.

Which alternative should be chosen according to your view, x or y ?

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Which alternative should now be realized according to your view, x or y ?

- (d_1) If up to this point you have always made a decision in favour of alternative x , could you imagine a situation, in which you would choose y after all? And how should y look like in your view, or would you always take a decision in favour of the aid program against hunger?
- (d_2) On which criteria did you base your decision? Please give a brief explanation.

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