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Distributive and Relational Egalitarianism: Can one Subscribe to Both?

Kasper Lippert-Rasmussen Aarhus University

"In recent years egalitarian political philosophy has been marred by a family dispute between luck egalitarianism and social relational egalitarianism. In my talk I will analyse the disagreement and then distinguish between its different dimensions! First, I defend a certain view about what the core of the disagreement consists in. This view enables us set aside a number of issues, e.g., concerns about the role of responsibility and about sufficiency, which have also played a large part in the debate, but which are better discussed as intra-luck egalitarian or intra-social relational egalitarian issues. I then defend a guarded reductionist claim to the effect that, to a large extent, the disagreement between luck egalitarians and relational egalitarians can be construed as a disagreement about the proper equalisandum and, thus, in effect might be seen as a family dispute within luck egalitarianism. I end the talk by suggesting an ecumenical egalitarian theory of justice, which incorporates insights from both views, and which is grounded in the value of fairness."

