

Peer Review

Review of: "To Be or Not to Be (Human): A Question of Economic Theories"

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This essay discusses how different layers of human perception and social structures overlap to shape economic outcomes. Specifically, the study merges the understanding of economic phenomena through the lenses of structuralist theories with the interpretation of the human condition present in the work of the early twentieth-century philosopher Lou Andreas-Salomé. The result is an exquisite incursion into how the existentialist reflection on the human condition may contribute to the understanding of economic behavior beyond the *homo-economicus* paradigm.

The manuscript is well-organized, written in clear language, and makes a very interesting point about economic behavior by asking “if the fulfillment of our satisfaction occurs through the acquisition of products (the things of the economy!), why are we always dissatisfied?”. This question serves as the starting point to skillfully, imaginatively, and provocatively launch a debate on the extent to which human existentialism connects with economic development and structural change. This is a work worth reading for its originality and for the suggestion that the human condition, and not only human behavior, is relevant in shaping economic outcomes.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.