

Thesis summary

A difficult allocation problem arises when multiple people lay claim on a scarce good. Lotteries have been proposed as a fair allocation mechanism. However, views differ on what it is about lotteries that make them fair. A prominent account of fairness was developed by John Broome. Broome claims that his theory explains better than any other theory why lotteries are fair. Therefore, his thesis examines Broome's theory of fairness and places it in the literature. Broome's core argument is that fairness requires the proportional satisfaction of claims. Lotteries allow us to satisfy claims proportionally. Lastly, this thesis tries to defend the Broomean account from criticisms by Hooker and Lazenby.

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