

## **Walking a Mile in your Shoes: An Escape from Arrowian Impossibilities**

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Abstract: This paper explores approaches to comparative justice (Sen, 2009) by drawing on Social Choice Theory. We introduce a procedure to correct for the influence of unquestioned parochial values on individual justice rankings: individuals are put into the position of other members of society allowing them to question (and possibly change) their justice ordering. In a first step, it is shown under which conditions this procedure leads to a domain restriction such that majority rule yields a social justice ordering. In a second step, it is examined how the introduced procedure can be used to distinguish between "reasoned" and "unreasoned" agreement. The paper concludes with a discussion as to how the findings cast doubt on the unqualified acceptance of the (weak) Pareto condition.

Key words: Social Choice Theory, Comparative Justice, Action-guidance

Sen, Amartya (2009). *The Idea of Justice*. Cambridge (Mass.): Harvard University Press.