

Holistic Behavioral Jurisprudence: Unpacking the Complexity of Law and Behavior

Abstract

Law plays a vital function in shaping human behavior. To do so, the design and operation of legal rules should be informed by social and behavioral science. This presentation outlines how such science from across disciplines and methods can best be integrated into a holistic behavioral jurisprudence. First, it demonstrates how the different behavioral effects of punishment can be integrated. Second, it introduces psychological network analysis to understand the complex behavioral variables that interact with one another and compliance. Third, it shows how the complexity of scientific insights can be effectively communicated to create evidence-based policy.

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Biography

Prof Benjamin van Rooij is a Professor of Law and Society at the Faculty of Law, University of Amsterdam. He directs the Center for Law and Behavior, also at the University of Amsterdam. He is also a Global Professor of Law at the University of California, Irvine. He studies and teaches about the interaction between law and behavior. His current research focuses on individual differences in compliance, toxic corporate culture, and assumptions about behavioral change. His past work looked at compliance, regulatory law enforcement and access to justice in China in a comparative perspective. He has also served as co-editor of Regulation & Governance, and founding convener of ComplianceNet a global network of compliance scholars. He currently leads an ERC-funded research project about behavioral assumptions in the field of law. In addition, he collaborates with an interdisciplinary team to study how organizational culture affects organizational misconduct. He is the co-author of The Behavioral Code (Beacon Press 2021), and co-editor of The Cambridge Handbook of Compliance (CUP 2021) and Measuring Compliance (CUP 2022).

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