

The Amazon Fires: Responsibility, Obligation, and the Limitations of the State

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Why is consent not enough to allow researchers to experiment on Malakkar Vohryzek? If it's his body and he's willing to live with the consequences, what reason do we have to object?

Can you provide an example of paternalism directed at you personally? Why does the person think they have a better sense of your interests than you? Can you think of reasons why they might be right? Can you think of reasons why they might be wrong?

Can you think of other situations where asymmetric understanding threatens to undermine a person's autonomy (besides the doctor example or the case of predatory lending)? Can you identify a third-party that might be able to see to the person's interests better than he/she can?

Can you think of a scenario in which offering a financial incentive might be exploitative? Imagine, for example, the case of a surrogate mother – a woman who agrees to bear a child for another person. Why might the arrangement be exploitative? How might we tell whether someone is being exploited or not?