



ÖSTERREICHISCHE
AGENTUR FÜR
WISSENSCHAFTLICHE
INTEGRITÄT

Dilemma Game on Scientific Integrity

Professionalism and Integrity in Research

Erasmus University Rotterdam

Rotterdam Dilemma Game

DILEMMA

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Slicing and dicing

A well-respected colleague proudly explains how he has managed to get twelve publications with empirical analyses out of the one dataset he collected for his dissertation. This is a particularly interesting achievement, as it involves a dataset with only 232 respondents to a four-page survey. What do I do?

OPTION

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- A I think this is a great example to follow and I ask him how he has achieved this.
- B I cannot imagine each of these twelve papers has a unique contribution and vow never to go down this route.
- C I tell the colleague that this is bad science and that I strongly disapprove of his actions.
- D I think this is bad practice that is tainting the reputation of science and inform the editors of at least the most recent of the twelve publications.

Rotterdam Dilemma Game

64 DILEMMA

One drink too many

A month ago I was having a few drinks with one of my colleagues. We had a very good discussion about our research area and I shared some of my ideas that I was considering for research. I have now actually done some literature study on the topic. Suddenly I discover that the same colleague has used my insights and written a paper about the subject. When I confront him, he says that he did not steal my ideas, but that they emerged from our brainstorming session. What do I do?

64 OPTION

- A** I threaten to take the issue to the department chair if the colleague does not retract his paper.
- B** I contact the university's integrity counsellor and follow her advice.
- C** I tell the colleague that I will accept the situation if he makes me second author.
- D** I accept I have been too slow, and vow never to talk about ideas that I have not yet published on.

