

Proposal for Oral Presentation for the Academic Center for Equity and Inclusion
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“Complex Econogenic Harm: How Economic Policy Can Harm the Worse-Off in
Society with Examples from Today”

We explore recent research in ethical standards for economists (DeMartino & McCloskey 2016, Levy & Peart 2017). There are clear cases where loss is identifiable and therefore compensation is made possible in financial terms, an example being the British Slavery Abolition Act of 1833. However, less quantifiable econogenic harm is possible; policy consequences which can cause complex psychological harm (civic alienation, loss of self-respect, creation of fear, empathy towards those adversely affected by policy) making compensation more difficult. We identify and discuss complex econogenic harm in both monetary and trade policy.