

# Making the invisible visible : essays on overconfidence, discrimination and peer effects

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## **PhD thesis: Making the Invisible Visible - Essays on Overconfidence, Discrimination and Peer Effects**

**Jan Feld**

### **Propositions**

1. Favoritism is not the opposite of discrimination, as people can favor one group without discriminating against the other. (Chapter 4).
2. The correlation between discriminatory and favoring preferences matters for labor market outcomes (Chapter 4).
3. Estimates of peer effects at Maastricht University are smaller than many proponents of PBL think (Chapter 5).
4. The unskilled tend to be more overconfident than the skilled (Chapter 3).
5. The beauty of economics is that it provides a framework that you can apply to analyze many social situations.
6. Reducing publication bias will increase people's trust in published empirical findings.
7. Econometrics is like a street lamp, it can be used for illumination and support.
8. Since the presence of names on exams influences students' grades, Maastricht University can increase objectivity in grading by implementing anonymous grading.
9. Practicing improv theatre is like sex: It is useful but that's not why most people do it.
10. When my information changes, I alter my conclusions. What do you do, sir? – John Maynard Keynes