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On the impossibility of complete non-interference in Paretian social judgements. (English)

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Summary: We study a principle of 'non-interference' in social welfare judgements. Non-interference captures aspects of liberal approaches (particularly a Millian approach) to social decision making. In its full generality, non-interference produces an impossibility result: together with weak Pareto optimality, it implies that a social welfare ordering must be dictatorial. However, interesting restricted versions of non-interference are compatible with standard social welfare orderings.

MSC:

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