

Coherence as the Possibility of Joint Success?: The Way to Success

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According to a recent family of views of structural rationality (or coherence), a combination of attitudes is coherent just in case it is possible for the attitudes to be jointly satisfied or successful. This paper argues that existing versions of the view face a dilemma. On the one hand, they are bound to have some unpalatable consequences, given standard assumptions about the satisfaction or success conditions of the relevant attitudes. On the other hand, modifying the satisfaction or success conditions of these attitudes to avoid such consequences would render these views unable to account for some central cases of incoherence. I then suggest an alternative version of the view, according to which a combination of attitudes is incoherent just in case it is impossible for the attitudes to jointly fulfill their functional roles.