



VERANSTALTUNGSREIHE NOVISSIMA SINICA #12



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From Poisoned Milk to Fake Vaccines: When Business and Morality Collide in China

A decade after public confidence in food and drug safety was undermined by a baby formula scandal in China, it was rocked again by widespread distribution of faulty and expired vaccines. Chinese consumers are therefore increasingly sceptical about the morality of the country's manufacturers. Such crises have brought business ethicists into the limelight, leading to a boom in research and publishing on the topic; business ethicists have, in fact, become important social actors and key mediators between business and the public.

In this lecture, Qian Zhao explores the prescriptions of several business ethicists, as well as the social context and cultural repertoires on which they draw. She finds that below a surface layer of convergent doctrines and norms, there are fundamental differences in the origins and underpinnings of their ethical thought.

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