

Article

“Indirect” Information: the Debate on Testimony in Social Epistemology and Its Role in the Game of “Giving and Asking for Reasons”

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Abstract: We'll sketch the debate on testimony in social epistemology by reference to the contemporary debate on reductionism/anti-reductionism, communitarian epistemology and inferentialism. Testimony is a fundamental source of knowledge we share and it is worthy to be considered in the ambit of a dialogical perspective, which requires a description of a formal structure which entails deontic statuses and deontic attitudes. In particular, we'll argue for a social reformulation of the “space of reasons”, which establishes a fruitful relationship with the epistemological view of Wilfrid Sellars.

Keywords: Testimony; Justification; Commitment; Entitlement; Speech Act
