

# Group Epistemology Essay

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## 1 What is decision theory and why is it broken?

Normative (or ideal) decision theory is the study of how to make the right choice in a given situation.<sup>1</sup> Economists, politicians, scientists, financial planners and doctors all use decision theory to choose which possible action will best let them achieve their goals.

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<sup>1</sup>The related study of *descriptive* decision theory focuses on how people *actually* make decisions, rather than how they *ought* to. This paper is only concerned with ideal decision theory.