Summary

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Why do people bequeath philanthropic goals

An empirical study on determinants for bequeathing

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Summary:

The scientific research on inheritances is scarce and almost exclusively from the US, UK and Australia. Based on data from 1992 Chang, Okunade and Kumar made a profile of potential testators in the US. Pamala Wiepking conducted in collaboration with researchers from the Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane comparable research in Australia (Wiepking, Madden & McDonald, 2010; Wiepking, Scaife & McDonald, 2012). Stroïng conducted research among wealthy in Germany, including legacies. Till now, the only research in the Netherlands has been conducted by Sickle and Shoemakers (2012); commissioned by the Dutch Cancer Society.
A number of determinants and factors are mentioned in research and literature on bequeathing to play role in the decisions on whether or not to benefit a good cause. Among them: the family situation (children, spouse), philanthropic involvement during life, to be asked; financial security, the origin of wealth, altruism, social norms and religion, confidence in the impact and fiscal regulations.
In the Giving in the Netherlands 2017 study special attention has been paid to bequeathing by further examination of the determinants already mentioned and by adding new ones. The GIN 2017 panel study includes a survey of individuals and HNW s. The sample (for individuals representative; for wealthy at random) counts a total n = 2417. Of this group, nearly 45% has a will (n = 1047), of whom 14% (n = 150) favors a good cause in the will.
The paper provides an overview of this research and specifically deals with the similarities and differences with results of earlier studies.

Most important references:

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