

Propositions

1. In order to understand the organisation of business cartels, we need to study the relational and structural embeddedness of business cartels in society.
2. In the absence of enforceable contracts and legal arbitration, interpersonal trust becomes essential in the organisation of business cartels.
3. Because cartel confessions are the most important source of information for competition authorities in detecting cartels, this tends to make them reactive.
4. Cartelists are able to stabilise their cartel agreements by creating mutual dependencies through informal social arrangements and communication.
5. The need for effective and frequent communication within business cartels impedes the need for covertness.
6. More harm is associated with crimes of the powerful than with crimes of the powerless.
7. People who do not trust one another will end up cooperating only under a system of formal rules and regulations, which have to be negotiated, agreed to, litigated, and enforced, sometimes by coercive means. [Francis Fukuyama]
8. Intentions to fix prices are inversely related to the fear of falling; the fear of losing what one has worked so hard to obtain, and actually serve as a reminder of what could be lost should one commit this illegality. [Nicole Leeper Piquero]
9. Breach of confidence can be seen as the essence of corporate crime.
10. The best way to rob a bank is own one. [William K. Black]
11. A change of scenery significantly influences productivity of PhD-candidates positively during their PhD-trajectories.