

Alessandra Antonella Rita Maglie – Abstract (ENG)

Deirdre McCloskey. An Intellectual Biography.

Professor of Economics, History, English Literature and Communication at the University of Illinois, Chicago, Deirdre McCloskey combines a transgender identity, an Episcopalian faith and a right-wing libertarian political ideology. A strong supporter of the “night-watcher State” theory, her strenuous defence of *bourgeois virtues* would seem provocative to the average mainstream intellectual, just like her unorthodox approach in studying economics. Nevertheless, her apology in favour of capitalism, on the basis of a complex moral theory, presents interesting aspects which fruitfully contribute to contemporary debate in politics and economics. The aim of my research is to investigate her intellectual and scientific background, to analyse her sources and the debates she engages in, with a specific emphasis on the gender perspective, in connection to ethics, economics and politics, which McCloskey furthers in her work.