

## **On Binmore's Use of Knowledge-as-Commitment**

This paper considers Ken Binmore's use of "as if" reasoning and how it relates to his distinction between "knowledge-as-commitment" and "knowledge-as-certainty". With the former, behavior is predicated on the belief that it is impossible that one is wrong, whereas with the latter, behavior is predicated on justified-true-belief. It is shown how Binmore's "as if" reasoning is related to the philosophical tradition known as "fictionalism", which has its origins in the work of Hans Vaihinger over a century ago. The implications of the distinction between these two kinds of knowledge for Binmore's approach to the foundations of rational choice and social contract theory is also explored.