

# Propositions belonging to the thesis

## Tick-borne diseases: Opening Pandora's Box

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1. The term Lyme disease is generally used to describe all forms of tick-borne diseases (this thesis).
2. Developing better diagnostic laboratory tools for tick-borne infections – except Lyme borreliosis – will increase disease prevalence (this thesis).
3. A monodisciplinary approach to studying vector-borne diseases leads to a distorted perspective (this thesis).
4. Our understanding of Lyme borreliosis and its diagnosis can improve when we consider the different *Borrelia burgdorferi* genospecies as separate pathogens (this thesis).
5. Treating erythema migrans prevents merely some forms of disseminated Lyme borreliosis (this thesis).
6. Prevention of epidemic outbreaks – such as the recent Ebola crisis – starts with institutional reforms (Rodrik et al., 2002 International Monetary Fund working paper).
7. Herd-immunity is the right of every child in public schools, kindergartens and daycare centers.
8. Driving electric vehicles in the Netherlands only makes sense if we clean up our electrical grid (Hawkins et al., 2012 Journal of Industrial Ecology).
9. By studying bacterial cultures, we can better understand the mechanisms of our capitalist economic systems (Zhao et al., 2013 Nature).
10. In order to benefit from the talent of female academics, we need to introduce a quota for female postdocs on top of the existing quota for female professors.
11. “Two there are who are never satisfied -- the lover of the world and the lover of knowledge.” - Jalaluddin Rumi