Stellingen (Claims)
1) QALYs (Quality Adjusted Life Years) describe the preferences of a representative agent well. Previously observed violations were probably due to violations of expected utility rather than to violations of the QALY model itself.

2) Generalized statements about preferences are possible even if a sample is not representative and the number of observations is limited.

3) In many everyday situations, people do not optimize a classical utility function, but rather they decide based on similarities.

4) Geographical vicinity is more important than the type of dwelling (house versus apartment) in forming expectations about the price development of real estate.

5) Distributions are as important as averages. Estimating social welfare functions of individuals is therefore as crucial for applications of decision theory in practical policy making as estimating preferences of a representative agent.

6) A QALY is not a QALY. There are other important considerations at play.

7) Low numbers of transactions in real estate market downturns can be attributed to loss aversion and the endowment effect. Prospect theory can explain why it makes sense to use a lottery rather than a straightforward sale in a bear real estate market.

8) Revealed preference is an important principle in both scientific research and real life.

9) Most people, in most settings, exhibit other-regarding preferences.

10) Estate tax is a fair and efficient means of raising government revenue.

11) Polygraph is an unreliable means of establishing a person’s general trustworthiness or specific truth telling. It is easy to cheat.