Avoiding Sectarianism in Ontologies
Workshop slide

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Avoiding sectarianism: Brief thoughts

► Be humble– you probably understand less than you think you do

  ► Words are slippery & have multiple meanings

► Understand the artefact

  ► What’s it for?
    • Focus on the consequences for its purpose
      ‣ Most often information systems
    • Don’t criticize a car because it doesn’t float

► Identify differences & analogies – which are significant
  • Which can be easily mapped? Transformed? Relabelled?

► Get evidence

  ► Write down operationalized criteria
  ► Test your hypotheses
  ► Try out the alternatives
  ► Implement it in a way that has consequences / inferences