

The Armchair Economist

The Armchair EconomistThe Armchair EconomistThe Armchair Economist (revised and updated May 2012)Armchair MistThe Armchair EconomistEbook: EconomicsExploring Everyday Things with R and RubyEconomics Made FunHistories of Scientific ObservationContending Perspectives in EconomicsThe Big QuestionsThe EconomistBook ChatThe Economic ReviewPakistan EconomistThe Contemporary ReviewThe Economics of Regulation: Principles and Institutions: Economic principlesNew StatesmanAmerican EconomistOpportunities in economics Steven E. Landsburg Steven E. Landsburg Steven E. Landsburg Steven E. Landsburg Steven E. Landsburg Colander Sau Sheong Chang N. Aydinonat Lorraine Daston John T Harvey Steven E. Landsburg William George Jordan Alfred Edward Kahn Ryan C. Amacher
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air bags cause accidents because well protected drivers take more risks this well documented truth comes as a surprise to most people but not to economists who have learned to take seriously the proposition that people respond to incentives in the armchair economist steven e landsburg shows how the laws of economics reveal themselves in everyday experience and illuminate the entire range of human behavior why does popcorn cost so much at the cinema the obvious answer is that the owner has a

monopoly but if that were the whole story there would also be a monopoly price to use the toilet when a sudden frost destroys much of the florida orange crop and prices skyrocket journalists point to the obvious exercise of monopoly power economists see just the opposite if growers had monopoly power they d have raised prices before the frost why don t concert promoters raise ticket prices even when they are sure they will sell out months in advance why are some goods sold at auction and others at pre announced prices why do boxes at the football sell out before the standard seats do why are bank buildings fancier than supermarkets why do corporations confer huge pensions on failed executives why don t firms require workers to buy their jobs landsburg explains why the obvious answers are wrong reveals better answers and illuminates the fundamental laws of human behavior along the way this is a book of surprises a guided tour of the familiar filtered through a decidedly unfamiliar lens this is economics for the sheer intellectual joy of it

preface to the second edition introduction what life is all about the power of incentives how seat belts kill rational riddles why u2 concerts sell out truth or consequences how to split a check or choose a movie the indi erence principle who cares if the air is clean the computer game of life learning what it s all about good and evil telling right from wrong the pitfalls of democracy why taxes are bad the logic of e ciency why prices are good smith versus darwin of medicine and candy trains and sparks economics in the courtroom how to read the news choosing sides in the drug war how the atlantic monthly got it wrong the mythology of deficits the idiot file spurious wisdom from the internet how statistics lie unemployment can be good for you the policy vice do we need more illiterates some modest proposals the end of bipartisanship how markets work why popcorn costs more at the movies and why the obvious answer is wrong courtship and collusion the mating game cursed winners and glum losers why life is full of disappointments random walks and stock market prices a primer for investors ideas of interest armchair forecasting the iowa car crop the pitfalls of science was einstein credible the economics of the scientificc method new improved football how economists go wrong the pitfalls of religion why i am not an environmentalist the science of economics versus the religion of ecology appendix

the extensively revised and updated edition of steven landsburg s hugely popular book the armchair economist a delightful compendium of quotidian examples illustrating important economic and financial theories the journal of finance in this revised and updated edition of steven landsburg s hugely popular book he applies economic theory to today s most pressing concerns answering a diverse range of daring questions such as why are seat belts deadly why do celebrity endorsements sell products why are failed executives paid so much who should bear the cost of oil spills do government deficits matter how is workplace safety bad for workers what s wrong with the local foods movement which rich people can t be taxed why is rising unemployment sometimes good why do women pay more at the dry cleaner why is life full of disappointments whether these are nagging questions you ve always had or ones you never even thought to ask this new edition of the armchair economist turns the eternal ideas of economic theory into concrete answers that you can use to navigate the challenges of contemporary life

landsburg economics univ of rochester demonstrates the economist s way of thinking about everyday occurrences the result is a compilation of questions ranging from why popcorn costs so much at movie theaters and why rock concerts sell out to why laws against polygamy are detrimental to women many of the issues raised are controversial and even somewhat humorous but they are clearly explained only from an economic perspective as opposed to other dynamics of human behavior there are also clear explanations of the misconceptions about unemployment rates measures of inflation and interest rates the book is not a textbook but shows how one economist solves puzzling questions that occur in daily living

ebook economics

all you need is a basic understanding of programming after a quick introduction to ruby and r you ll explore a wide range of questions by learning how to assemble process simulate and analyze the available data you ll learn to see everyday things in a different perspective through simple programs and common sense logic once you finish this book you can begin your own journey of exploration and discovery

best selling books such as *freakonomics* and *the undercover economist* have paved the way for the flourishing economics made fun genre while books like these present economics as a strong and explanatory science the ongoing economic crisis has exposed the shortcomings of economics to the general public in the face of this crisis many people including well known economists such as paul krugman have started to express their doubts about whether economics is a success as a science as well as academic papers newspaper columns with a large audience have discussed the failure of economic to predict and explain ongoing trends the emerging picture is somewhat confusing economics made fun books present economics as a method of thinking that can successfully explain everyday and freaky phenomena on the other hand however economics seems to fail in addressing and explaining the most pressing matters related to the field of economics itself this book explores the confusion created by this contradictory picture of economics could a science that cannot answer its own core questions really be used to explain the logic of everyday life this book was originally published as a special issue of the journal of economic methodology

includes bibliographical references and index

this accessible book provides a non technical yet rigorous introduction to the various competing schools of thought in economics including neoclassical marxist austrian post keynesian institutionalist new institutionalist and feminist the unique

what s wrong with stealing what s the best way to blood test a pot bellied pig should we tolerate intolerance in the wake of his enormously popular books the armchair economist and more sex is safer sex steven landsburg uses concepts from maths economics and physics to address the big questions in philosophy where does knowledge come from what s the difference between right and wrong do our beliefs matter is it possible to know everything provocative utterly entertaining and always surprising the big questions challenges readers to re evaluate their most fundamental beliefs and reveals the relationship between the loftiest philosophical quests and our everyday lives

includes section reviews

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