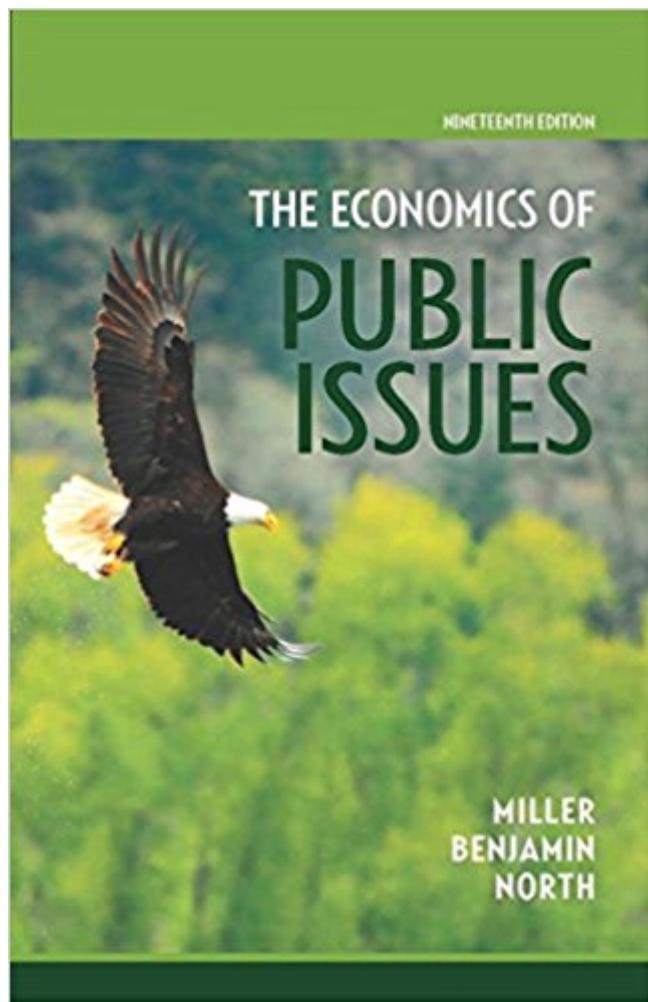


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# Economics Of Public Issues (19th Edition)



## **Synopsis**

Brief, relevant readings that spark independent thinking and classroom discussions The Economics of Public Issues is a collection of brief, relevant readings that spark independent thinking and classroom discussions in Principles of Economics and Social Issues courses. This text encourages readers to apply theoretical discussions to todayâ™s important issues and to gain a deeper understanding of current economic policy concerns.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 264 pages

Publisher: Pearson; 19 edition (July 11, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0134018974

ISBN-13: 978-0134018973

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.7 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 70 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #21,288 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #63 in Books > Business & Money > Economics > Economic Conditions #291 in Books > Textbooks > Business & Finance > Economics

## **Customer Reviews**

Roger LeRoy Miller Roger LeRoy Miller received his PhD from the University of Chicago. He is currently Director of the Institute for University Studies in Arlington, Texas. Dr. Miller is a legal specialist and author of numerous books on law and the legal environment, including criminal procedure. In addition, Dr. Miller has authored books on the war on drugs, the economics of crime and criminal behavior, and on related topics. Daniel K. Benjamin Daniel K. Benjamin is Alumni Distinguished Professor in the John E. Walker Department of Economics at Clemson University. Douglass C. North

Note: This is essentially an applied microeconomics book. You won't find too much macroeconomics in this book (maybe that's a good thing though). I am a professor of economics and in the process of writing a detailed outline for an undergraduate Survey of Economics course for Organizational Leadership majors. The main text I am using is Economics by McConnell, Brue, and Flynn. Economics of Public Issues is a required book to complement the main text. This book is very

easy for students to read. The chapters are very short (2-5 pages) and the examples are excellent. A theme throughout this book is the role of negative unintended consequences of government policy. I have never taken nor taught a course in public policy or political science, but this book might make a great complement in those fields as well. I intentionally chose the 16th edition because of price; used copies are selling for about \$1 + shipping. There are some small changes between the 18th and 17th editions. I was given a copy of the 14th edition in 2008, and there are a number of differences between the 14th and 16th edition. The authors seem to make changes to update the book based on current events. Each chapter has about 4 discussion questions. I plan to assign two chapters a week for homework, and two for in-class discussion. For online courses, I plan to use the questions for graded discussion board posts. I have found that quality of online student discussion board is much better when the questions are "real world" in nature instead of generic or technical textbook questions. This book has very interesting "real world" examples and can stimulate debate among students. For example, the chapter on drugs, alcohol, and prostitution makes the point that quality of these "goods" is low when they are illegal. Does this mean that drugs should be legal? Students can discuss the costs and benefits. On another note, I like that the book clearly outlines negative effects regarding laws on rent controls and the minimum wage. Finally, I am very happy with the chapter on the mortgage meltdown as it discusses the government's role in over-subsidizing the housing market, and encouraging moral hazard and adverse selection in bank lending. Update: I decided to adopt the 17th edition after all. The 17th edition has a chapter on health care and PPACA, a chapter on underground markets, and a chapter on the looming pension crisis. These chapters were removed in the 18th edition. My impression of the 18th edition is that it is very heavy on environmental economics. This might be good or bad depending on which course an instructor uses this book for. The 17th edition does the best job for my course.

I have to read this book for a class in college and I have to say, it's probably the most concise and clearly written introduction to economics and public issues I've ever encountered. Not only is it well written, it was exceedingly well edited. Nothing in this book is superfluous and everything is relevant. I would read this book even if it wasn't assigned reading. It's very even-handed, it's academic without being boring, but basically the point of the book is that there's no free lunch: Public issues are issues for a reason; there is no magical system that will result in no cost somewhere to someone, and sometimes measuring the outcomes is impossible until you've already chosen a path. This book deals with some very serious issues in an engaging and thought provoking way, and it's a pretty easy read. You do not have to know one thing about economics to appreciate

this book. I'd recommend it to anyone that's interested in politics, economics, business, or even just plain old social philosophy.

The book is completely new and everything is the same as described. It is purchased for my ECON class which is very helpful for building a strong foundation with some realistic concepts in life.

One of the very best books on understanding economics and life.

Has the format and feel of a textbook, yet is easy to read, understand and conceptualize. A well written broad overview of government regulations and their effect on economics.

Taking or teaching an economics class? If so you need this book.

I needed this book for an upper level microeconomics course. We used the book once a week to discuss issues. Only thing is this books isn't a text book so it has poor citations and it seems to be written from a conservative view point which is a bit challenging but it sometimes gets you mad so you really think about some of the issues discussed.

This book is not a textbook, it is an opinion piece from one side arguing against solutions to current society problems.

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