

Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing

By Frank Ackerman, Lisa Heinzerling

Donwload Read Online

Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing By Frank Ackerman, Lisa Heinzerling

As clinical as it sounds to express the value of human lives, health, or the environment in cold dollars and cents, cost-benefit analysis requires it. More disturbingly, this approach is being embraced by a growing number of politicians and conservative pundits as the most reasonable way to make many policy decisions regarding public health and the environment.

By systematically refuting the economic algorithms and illogical assumptions that cost-benefit analysts flaunt as fact, *Priceless* tells a “gripping story about how solid science has been shoved to the backburner by bean counters with ideological blinders” (*In These Times*). Ackerman and Heinzerling argue that decisions about health and safety should be made “to reflect not economists’ numbers, but democratic values, chosen on moral grounds. This is a vividly written book, punctuated by striking analogies, a good deal of outrage, and a nice dose of humor” (Cass Sunstein, *The New Republic*).

Essential reading for anyone concerned with the future of human health and environmental protection, *Priceless* “shines a bright light on obstacles that stand in the way of good government decisions” (*Public Citizen News*).

Download Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and ...pdf

Read Online Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything an ...pdf

Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing

By Frank Ackerman, Lisa Heinzerling

Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing By Frank Ackerman, Lisa Heinzerling

As clinical as it sounds to express the value of human lives, health, or the environment in cold dollars and cents, cost-benefit analysis requires it. More disturbingly, this approach is being embraced by a growing number of politicians and conservative pundits as the most reasonable way to make many policy decisions regarding public health and the environment.

By systematically refuting the economic algorithms and illogical assumptions that cost-benefit analysts flaunt as fact, *Priceless* tells a “gripping story about how solid science has been shoved to the backburner by bean counters with ideological blinders” (*In These Times*). Ackerman and Heinzerling argue that decisions about health and safety should be made “to reflect not economists’ numbers, but democratic values, chosen on moral grounds. This is a vividly written book, punctuated by striking analogies, a good deal of outrage, and a nice dose of humor” (Cass Sunstein, *The New Republic*).

Essential reading for anyone concerned with the future of human health and environmental protection, *Priceless* “shines a bright light on obstacles that stand in the way of good government decisions” (*Public Citizen News*).

Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing By Frank Ackerman, Lisa Heinzerling Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #2149183 in Books
- Published on: 2004-02-24
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.25" h x 5.75" w x .75" l, 1.05 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 320 pages

Download Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and ...pdf

Read Online Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything an ...pdf

Download and Read Free Online Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing By Frank Ackerman, Lisa Heinzerling

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly
How does one put a cost on a human life? And what effect does air pollution have on our health? Ackerman and Heinzerling focus on such questions in this volume, a skeptical and instructive look at how economists put a dollar value on intangible risks and rewards. What sounds like a purely technical process has enormous political implications, thanks to the pervasive use of cost-benefit analysis in government decision making. Because this analysis is used to quantify the impact of often controversial regulatory and tax policies, the economists' numbers loom large in public policy, which Ackerman and Heinzerling clearly deplore. They've composed a lively and engaging attack, both well reasoned and well documented, on the myriad ways that these little-scrutinized figures are manipulated for political gain. While it's no surprise to anyone who has worked with statistics that numbers are frequently massaged to advance a particular point of view, the authors argue that in some cases the massaging leans toward misrepresentation or outright incompetence. For example, one study attempted to downplay the hazards of toxic waste dumps by noting that accidents with deer hurt more people every year; but then, there are many more deer than toxic waste dumps. This is a thoughtful book that is partisan but not strident; at the same time, it assumes a certain degree of mathematical sophistication.
Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Review

"As Frank Ackerman and Lisa Heinzerling point out . . . it is hardly clear why the same logic [of short term investments] should apply to the value of our great-grandchildren." &#8212Jim Holt, *The New York Times Magazine*

"Ackerman and Heinzerling combine sophisticated criticism and a provocative policy perspective with an accessible style and an eye for contemporary political issues." &#8212*Harvard Law Review*

"If you've ever wondered where some really bad ideas—more arsenic in your water, say—could have come from, this book will provide the answers." &#8212Bill McKibben, author of *The End of Nature*

About the Author

Frank Ackerman is an economist at the Global Development and Environment Institute at Tufts University and author of *Why Do We Recycle?* He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Lisa Heinzerling is a professor at the Georgetown University Law Center, specializing in environmental law. She lives in Bethesda, Maryland.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Melvin Robinson:

The actual book Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing has a lot associated with on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of gain. The book was authored by

the very famous author. This articles author makes some research prior to write this book. This specific book very easy to read you can get the point easily after reading this book.

Kevin Caputo:

Can you one of the book lovers? If yes, do you ever feeling doubt when you are in the book store? Try and pick one book that you just dont know the inside because don't ascertain book by its cover may doesn't work at this point is difficult job because you are frightened that the inside maybe not since fantastic as in the outside seem likes. Maybe you answer can be Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing why because the wonderful cover that make you consider with regards to the content will not disappoint you. The inside or content is definitely fantastic as the outside or perhaps cover. Your reading sixth sense will directly guide you to pick up this book.

Janna Lefevre:

Are you kind of busy person, only have 10 or even 15 minute in your day time to upgrading your mind skill or thinking skill also analytical thinking? Then you are experiencing problem with the book in comparison with can satisfy your limited time to read it because pretty much everything time you only find guide that need more time to be examine. Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing can be your answer as it can be read by you actually who have those short time problems.

Ruby Martinez:

Many people spending their moment by playing outside along with friends, fun activity using family or just watching TV 24 hours a day. You can have new activity to invest your whole day by examining a book. Ugh, think reading a book can definitely hard because you have to use the book everywhere? It ok you can have the e-book, taking everywhere you want in your Smart phone. Like Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing which is getting the e-book version. So , try out this book? Let's find.

Download and Read Online Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing By Frank Ackerman, Lisa Heinzerling #A96QG3RZNTC

Read Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing By Frank Ackerman, Lisa Heinzerling for online ebook

Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing By Frank Ackerman, Lisa Heinzerling Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing By Frank Ackerman, Lisa Heinzerling books to read online.

Online Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing By Frank Ackerman, Lisa Heinzerling ebook PDF download

Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing By Frank Ackerman, Lisa Heinzerling Doc

Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing By Frank Ackerman, Lisa Heinzerling Mobipocket

Priceless: On Knowing the Price of Everything and the Value of Nothing By Frank Ackerman, Lisa Heinzerling EPub