

Gari Beker

Nobelova nagrada za 1992.



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# EKONOMIJA JE UMETNOST ŽIVLJENJA

## Rezime

Gari S. Beker je dobio Nobelovu nagradu iz ekonomije 1992. godine za proširenje oblasti mikroekonomske analize na širok spektar ljudskog ponašanja i interakcija, uključujući netržišno ponašanje. Svoja istraživanja usmerio je na porodicu, društvo, kriminal, diskriminaciju, bolesti zavisnosti, itd. Do sada je napisao preko 12 knjiga i više od 50 članaka. Nosilac je brojnih priznanja: Džon Bejts Klark nagrade za najistaknutijeg američkog ekonomistu, priznanja Papske akademije nauka, Nacionalne medalje za nauku, nagrade Džon fon Nojman i Predsedničke medalje slobode, kao i počasnih diploma desetak univerziteta u svetu: Hebrejskog univerziteta u Jerusalimu, koledža u Ilinoisu, Prinstona, Harvarda i Kolumbija univerziteta, Hitocubaši univerziteta u Japanu, itd.

**Ključne reči:** ekonomija, Nobelova nagrada, Gari S. Beker, ekonomska analiza, ljudski kapital, investicije, diskriminacija, kriminal, zakon, interesne grupe, domaćinstvo, bračna zajednica, deca

**JEL:** A12, B31, D03

Gary S. Becker

Nobel Prize for 1992

# ECONOMY IS THE ART OF MAKING THE MOST OF LIFE

scientific  
review  
article



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## Summary

Gary S. Becker won the 1992 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences for having extended the domain of microeconomic analysis to a wide range of human behaviour and interaction, including nonmarket behaviour. He directed his research at family, society, crime, discrimination, addiction diseases, etc. So far he has authored over a dozen books and more than 50 articles. He has won numerous awards and recognitions, such as: John Bates Clark Medal to the most prominent American economist; Recognition of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences; National Medal of Science; John von Neumann Award; and Presidential Medal of Freedom. Moreover, he is the recipient of honorary titles from a dozen universities worldwide: Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Illinois College, Princeton, Harvard and Columbia University, Hitotsubashi University of Japan, etc.

**Key words:** economy, Nobel Prize, Gary S. Becker, economic analysis, human capital, investment, discrimination, crime, law, interest groups, household, marriage, children

**JEL:** A12, B31, D03

**N**obelovu nagradu 1992. godine iz ekonomije dobio je američki naučnik Gari Beker za proširenje oblasti mikroekonomske analize na širok spektar ljudskog ponašanja i interakcija, uključujući netržišno ponašanje. Za objašnjenje svoje metodološke filozofije Beker je pozajmio aforizam poznatog irskog pisca Bernarda Šoa: „Ekonomija je umetnost življenja“.

## Biografija

Gari Beker je rođen 1930. godine u Potsvilu, malom rudarskom gradu istočne Pensilvanije. Zbog očevog novog posla, nakon nekoliko godina, cela porodica se preselila u Bruklin, Njujork gde je Gari završio osnovnu školu i gimnaziju. Roditelji, koji su stekli samo obavezno, osnovno obrazovanje, imali su četvoro dece: dva sina i dve ćerke. Beker je bio dobar đak koji je pokazivao sklonost prema matematici, ali ga je najviše zanimao sport, i to rukomet.

Tokom svojih prvih godina studija na Princeton univerzitetu pohađao je više kurseva iz ekonomije, savremene algebre i diferencijalnih jednačina. Njegovo izučavanje matematike bilo je dobra priprema za buduće bavljenje ekonomijom za koju je počeo sve više da se interesuje. Na trećoj godini studija zainteresovanost za ekonomiju opada jer mu se čini da se ne bavi važnim društvenim problemima. Beker odlučuje da studije nastavi na univerzitetu u Čikagu i tamo uradi diplomski rad. Na ovom univerzitetu 1951. godine upoznaje Milтона Fridmana i zahvaljujući njegovim predavanjima o praktičnoj primeni ekonomije sa novim elanom i uzbuđenjem pronalazi oblasti koje su mu za dalji rad posebno inspirativne. Osim Fridmana, na ovom fakultetu bili su i drugi značajni ekonomisti kao što su: Greg Luis, T. V. Šulc i L. J. Sevidž. Prema Fridmanu je gajio veliko poštovanje zbog njegovih stavova i naučnih dostignuća, prihvatajući kao svoju njegovu maksimu da ekonomija nije igra koju igraju pametni intelektualci, već moćan alat za analizu stvarnog sveta.

Nakon dva članka koja je objavio 1952. godine, na osnovu doktorske disertacije 1957. godine izdaje svoju prvu knjigu pod nazivom *Ekonomija diskriminacije*, koja sadrži

ekonomsku analizu efekata predrasuda na zarade i zapošljavanje. To je bio početak njegovog istraživanja socijalnih kategorija kroz primenu ekonomske teorije. Knjiga nije u javnosti pobudila veće interesovanje, iako je imala povoljne kritike u nekim većim časopisima, jer je većina ekonomista smatrala da rasna diskriminacija nema nikakve veze sa ekonomijom. Podršku je dobio od Fridmana, Šulca i Luisa kao i drugih bliskih prijatelja, saradnika i kolega koje je veoma poštovao i koji su doprineli da istraje na ovim i sličnim istraživanjima.

Nakon tri godine rada (1954-1957) kao docent na univerzitetu Čikago, odlazi na Kolumbija univerzitet na kome će ostati sve do 1969. godine. Ovih dvanaest godina Beker je, sem na univerzitetu, proveo radeći i u Nacionalnom birou za ekonomska istraživanja. Njegova sledeća knjiga o ljudskom kapitalu je plod istraživačkog projekta Nacionalnog biroa. U tom periodu napisao je i nekoliko članaka koji su naišli na veliko interesovanje i danas su veoma citirani. Na univerzitetu je sarađivao sa Džejkobom Minserom oko srodnih tema iz ekonomije, posebno o ljudskom kapitalu, što je pobudilo veliko interesovanje kod studenata.

Na Čikaški univerzitet Beker se vratio 1970. godine i tamo zatekao veoma stimulativnu atmosferu za rad zahvaljujući, pre svega, profesorima Džordžu Stajgleru i Heriju Džonsonu. Od tada, Beker će svoj dalji rad kao profesor ekonomije i sociologije obavljati na ovom fakultetu baveći se aktivno i pisanjem stručnih članaka i knjiga. Do sada je napisao preko 12 knjiga i više od 50 članaka.

Početakom devedesetih godina prošlog veka dobio je ponudu da bude kolumnista magazina *Business Week*. Dvumio se da li to da prihvati jer je do tada pisao samo stručne tekstove, plašeći se da to neće moći uspešno da radi. Prihvatio je ponudu magazina kao eksperiment, ali je veoma brzo shvatio da je to bila mudra odluka koja ga je naučila kako da piše o ekonomskim i socijalnim pitanjima bez upotrebe stručnih termina, odnosno da o tim temama piše jednostavnim jezikom razumljivim i za širu čitalačku publiku. Osim toga, pisanje kolumne svakog meseca učinilo je da bude uvek u toku sa aktuelnim temama koje zanimaju čitaocima magazina.

The American economist, Gary S. Becker, won the 1992 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences for having extended the domain of microeconomic analysis to a wide range of human behaviour and interaction, including nonmarket behaviour. To describe his methodological philosophy, Becker borrowed an aphorism from the celebrated Irish writer, Bernard Shaw: "Economy is the art of making the most of life".

## Biography

Gary Becker was born in 1930 in Pottsville, a small coal mining town in Eastern Pennsylvania. Due to his father's new job, after several years, the entire family moved to Brooklyn, New York, where Gary went to elementary and high school. His parents, who had acquired only the obligatory, elementary education, had four children: two sons and two daughters. Becker was a good student demonstrating his inclination towards mathematics, although at the time he was most interested in sports, handball in particular.

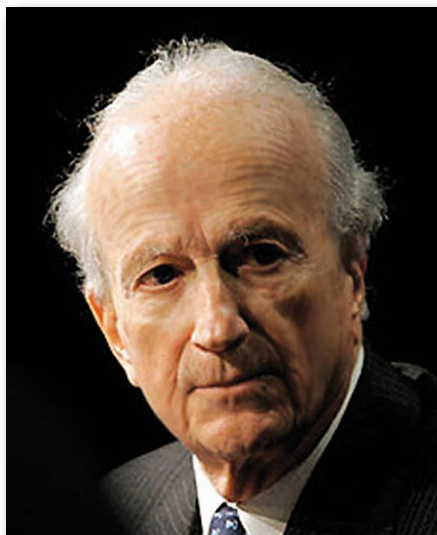
During his first years of study at the Princeton University, he attended several courses in economics, modern algebra and differential equations. His study of mathematics was a solid preparation for the future dealing with economics, in which he started to be increasingly interested. During his third year of studies, he began to lose interest in economics because it did not seem to deal with important social problems. Nevertheless, Becker decided to go to the University of Chicago for graduate work in economics. It was at this University, in 1951, that he met Milton Friedman, whose lectures on practical implementations of economics renewed his excitement and helped him discover the fields particularly inspirational for his further work. Apart from Friedman, at this University he met other important economists as well, including: Gregg Lewis, T. W. Schultz and L. J. Savage.

Becker greatly respected Friedman as a result of his views and scientific achievements, having accepted his maxim that economic theory was not a game played by clever academicians, but a powerful tool to analyse the real world.

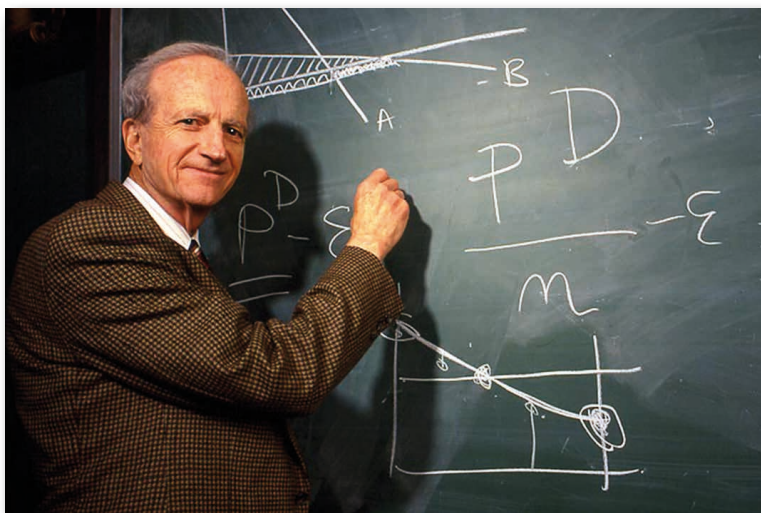
After two articles published in 1952, his first book titled *The Economics of Discrimination*, and based on his PhD dissertation, came out in 1957, featuring an economic analysis of the effects of prejudice on earnings and employment. This marked the beginning of his research of social categories by applying economic theory. The book raised no particular interest in the public, although it was favourably reviewed in a few major journals, because most economists believed racial discrimination had nothing to do with economics. Becker was supported by Friedman, Schultz and Lewis, as well as by other close friends, associates and colleagues, whom he highly respected and who contributed to his perseverance in this and similar investigations.

After three years (1954-1957) in the position of Assistant Professor at the University of Chicago, Becker left to Columbia University where he stayed until 1969. For these twelve years, in addition to his University post, he also worked at the National Bureau of Economic Research. His next book, on human capital, was the outgrowth of his research project for the National Bureau. During this period he also wrote several articles which were met with huge interest and have been frequently quoted today. At the University he cooperated with Jacob Mincer concerning the related economic topics, especially the ones about human capital, which attracted a lot of interest on the part of the students.

In 1970 Becker returned to the University of Chicago where he found a rather stimulating working atmosphere, mostly thanks to professors George Stigler and Harry Johnson. Since then, Becker has been employed at this University, as a Professor of Economics and Sociology, actively writing expert articles and books. So far he has authored over a dozen books and more than 50 articles.







Beker se ženio dva puta. Prvi put 1954. godine i iz tog braka ima dve ćerke: Džudi i Ketrin. Deset godina nakon što mu je umrla supruga ženi se ponovo 1980. godine sa Guiti Nashat koja takođe ima dvoje dece, sinove Majkla i Sajrusa. Guiti je istoričar i svoja profesionalna interesovanja usmerila je na ulogu žene u ekonomskom i društvenom životu. Kompatibilna lična i profesionalna interesovanja učinila su Bekerov život lepšim, uspešnijim i potpunijim.

## Naučni rad

Konvencionalna, dobro razrađena i veoma delotvorna oruđa ekonomske analize Beker je primenio na fenomene na koje ih pre njega niko nije primenio. To je dovelo do novih saznanja o analiziranim fenomenima, a ekonomsku nauku uvelo u oblasti koje su do tada za nju bile nepristupačna zona. Bekerova ekonomska analiza se bavila ponašanjem domaćinstva, odlukama o sklapanju brakova i razvoda, fertilitetu, rasnoj, polnoj i verskoj diskriminaciji, kriminalu, političkim procesima, itd.

Stvaranje ekonomskog imperijalizma dovelo je do uspostavljanja konkurencije između različitih društvenih nauka, odnosno do konkurencije alternativnih pristupa istom posmatranom fenomenu - ljudskom ponašanju.

Beker smatra da ekonomsku nauku ne treba definisati na osnovu fenomena koje ona istražuje već na osnovu načina na koji istražuje te fenomene. Razlika između ekonomske nauke i ostalih društvenih nauka nalazi se u pristupu fenomenima koji se istražuju, a ne u

njima samima. Jedini uslov koji se postavlja na planu objekta ekonomskog istraživanja jeste da postoji ljudsko ponašanje sa dva osnovna elementa: oskudni resursi i alternativni ciljevi.

**Vreme je ključni resurs domaćinstva** - Nov pristup Beker unosi i u istraživanje ponašanja domaćinstva. Uvodi novu kategoriju dobara - osnovna dobra koja se koriste u potrošnji, odnosno isključivo ona kao argument ulaze u funkciju korisnosti pojedinca, odnosno domaćinstva. Ova dobra se ne mogu kupiti na tržištu već predstavljaju dobra koja proizvode domaćinstva na osnovu dva inputa: vremena kao najznačajnijeg resursa kojim raspolažu i tržišnih dobara, odnosno robe koja se nabavlja na tržištu. Ključni resurs domaćinstva je vreme. Beker naziva punim dohotkom onaj koji bi domaćinstvo, odnosno pojedinac ostvario ukoliko svoje celokupno raspoloživo

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In early 1990s, Becker received an offer to write a monthly column for *Business Week* magazine. He was in two minds whether to accept it, given that until then he had only written academic texts, fearing that he would not be able to manage this successfully. Finally, he agreed to the offer on an experimental basis, but soon realized that it was a wise decision, which taught him to write about economic and social issues without using the technical jargon, i.e. to write about these topics in a simple language, understandable even to the general audience. Moreover, the writing of a column each month made him stay abreast of the current subjects that interested the readers of the magazine.

Becker married two times. For the first time in 1954, from which marriage he has two daughters: Judy and Catherine. Ten years after his first wife died, in 1980, he married for the second time to Guity Nashat, who gave him two stepsons: Michael and Cyrus. Guity is a historian who directed her professional interests at the role of women in economic and social life.

The personal and professional compatibility of their interests has made Becker's life more beautiful, successful and complete.

## Scientific work

The conventional, well-developed and rather efficient tools of economic analysis were implemented by Becker on the phenomena that no one before him dealt with. This shed new light on the analysed phenomena, and introduced new fields into economics, the fields which had been formerly inaccessible to it. Becker's economic analysis focused on the behaviour of households, decisions to enter a marriage or get a divorce, fertility issues, racial, gender and religious discrimination, crime, political processes, etc.

The origination of economic imperialism led to the establishment of competition among various social sciences, i.e. to the competition of alternative approaches to the same observed phenomenon - human behaviour.

Becker believes that economic science should not be defined based on the phenomena it investigates, but based on the methods it uses to investigate those phenomena. The difference between economic science and other social sciences lies in the approach to the investigated phenomena, and not in the phenomena themselves. The only condition set in terms of the subject of economic research is that there is human behaviour with two main elements: scarce resources and alternative goals.

### Time as the key resource of households

- Becker introduces a new approach to the research of households' behaviour. He presents a new category of goods - basic goods used in consumption, meaning that only such goods are to be used as an argument in the function of usefulness of an individual, i.e. a household. These goods cannot be purchased in the market, but represent those goods produced by the household based on two inputs: time, as the most important resource available, and market goods, i.e. commodities procured on the market. The key resource of a household is time. Becker defines full income as the income a household, or an individual, would achieve if they spend all their available time on performing market activities. Thereby Becker indicated that time

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vreme potroši u tržišnim aktivnostima. Time je pokazao da je vreme novac i da ima svoju cenu. Ljudi koji od svojih tržišnih aktivnosti ostvaruju visok dohodak, imaju i visoku cenu svog vremena.

**Investicije u sopstveni ljudski kapital** - Što je više investicija u ljudski kapital to su one efikasnije, a ljudski kapital veći, pa su veći i prinosi na taj kapital mereno nadnicama i drugim radnim dohocima. Odluke o investicijama u sopstveni ljudski kapital ljudi donose tako da maksimizuju neto sadašnju vrednost svojih budućih dohodaka. Ukoliko postoji nekoliko mogućih investicionih projekata, ljudi će se odlučiti za onaj koji generiše najveću neto vrednost očekivanih budućih dohodaka. Obrazovanje predstavlja najznačajniju vrstu te investicije. Što se tiče nacionalnih investicija u ovaj resurs one se u velikom delu tretiraju kao potrošnja (obrazovanje, zdravstvena zaštita, rekreacija, itd.), a u stvari to su investicije u ljudski kapital koje dovode do rasta proizvodnje za budućnost.

**Deca su osnovna dobra** - Odluka (van) bračnog para da imaju decu za Bekera predstavlja investicionu odluku porodice/ domaćinstva, a pri svakoj investicionoj odluci porede se sadašnje vrednosti očekivanih prinosa i očekivanih troškova koje će deca da generišu prilikom njihovog podizanja. Dohodak roditelja ima odlučujuću ulogu o veličini porodice/ broju dece. Investicije u ljudski kapital dece podrazumevaju veliko učešće vremena roditelja. Porast dohotka dovodi do efekta supstitucije dece drugim osnovnim dobrima. Odnosno, porast dohotka dovodi do opadanja tražnje za decom, pa time i veličine porodice. Ova regularnost poznata je kao Bekerova hipoteza o troškovima vremena žene, imajući u vidu njenu značajniju ulogu u podizanju dece. Druga njegova hipoteza je o interakciji kvantiteta i kvaliteta dece. Kvalitet deteta, kao novi Bekerov element u razmatranju teorije fertiliteta, podiže se uvećanim investiranjem u ljudski kapital deteta što povećava troškove podizanja svakog pojedinačnog deteta. Pri zadatom budžetskom ograničenju roditelji biraju između uvećanja sopstvene korisnosti koja proizilazi iz uvećanja broja dece i uvećanja korisnosti do koga dolazi sa uvećanjem kvaliteta svakog deteta. Raspoloživo roditeljsko vreme,

kao osnovni proizvodni faktor podizanja dece, može alternativno da se upotrebi na podizanje manjeg broja dece višeg kvaliteta ili većeg broja dece nižeg kvaliteta.

**Brak i njegovo tržište** - Dve osobe stupaju u brak kada postignu saglasnost da očekuju da će im u braku biti bolje nego da ostanu samci. Postoji svojevrсно bračno tržište na kome se pojedinci nadmeću, odnosno konkurišu jedni drugima za dobijanje najboljeg mogućeg bračnog druga. Monogamija je optimalan oblik braka i on maksimizuje proizvodnju osnovnih dobara. Ukoliko se produktivnost muškarca razlikuje, poligamija može da bude optimalni oblik. Poligamija će biti češća u slučaju produktivnijih muškaraca i to objašnjava ciničnom opaskom Bernarda Šoa: „Materinski instinkt navodi ženu da joj više odgovara deseti deo prvorazrednog muškarca u odnosu na isključivo posedovanje jednog trećerazrednog.“

**Diskriminacija** - Za Bekera ne postoje ekonomski uzroci diskriminacije već postoje samo njene ekonomske posledice.

## Priznanja

1. 1967. godina - Džon Bejts Klark nagrada za najistaknutijeg američkog ekonomistu ispod 40 godina starosti;
2. 1992. godina - Nobelova nagrada;
3. 1997. godina - Priznanje Papske akademije nauka;
4. 2000. godina - Nacionalna medalja za nauku;
5. 2004. godina - Džon fon Nojman nagrada;
6. 2007. godina - Predsednička medalja slobode.

Beker je jedan od osnivača Nacionalne akademije za obrazovanje, saradnik američkog Udruženja za statistiku, Ekonometrijskog društva, Američke akademije nauka i umetnosti, član Nacionalne akademije nauka, Američkog filozofskog društva, Međunarodne unije za naučno istraživanje stanovništva, Američkog ekonomskog udruženja, itd.

Nosilac je počasnih diploma desetak univerziteta u svetu: Hebrejskog univerziteta u Jerusalmu, koledža u Ilinoisu, Prinstona, Harvarda i Kolumbija univerziteta, Hitocubaši univerziteta u Japanu, itd.



is money and that it has its own price. People who yield high income from their market activities charge a high price for their time.

**Investments into human capital** - The higher the investments into human capital, the more efficient they are, and the larger the human capital, hence also the returns on this capital, measured in terms of wages and other work-related income. The decisions on investments into their own human capital are made by people maximizing the net present value of their future income. If there are several potential investment projects, people would opt for the one generating the highest net value of the expected future revenues. Education is the most significant form of such investment. As for the national investments into these resources, they are largely treated as consumption (education, healthcare protection, recreation, etc.), whereas in fact those are investments into human capital, leading towards a growth of future production.

**Children are basic goods** - A decision of



a(n) (un)married couple to have children for Becker represents an investment decision of a family/household, and whenever there is an investment decision to be made, the present values of expected returns are compared with the expected costs generated by the children during their upbringing. The parents' income has a decisive role in the size of a family/number of children. Investment into the human capital of children demands a large input of the parents' time. A growth of income causes the effect of substituting children by other basic goods. In other words, an increased income results in a declined demand for children, and, in turn, the size of the family. This regularity is known as the Becker's cost-of-a-woman's-time hypothesis, bearing in mind that women typically play a more significant role in raising children. His second hypothesis refers to the interaction of quantity and quality of children. Quality of a child, as a new element in Becker's consideration of fertility theory, increases by means of bigger investments into the child's human capital, which heightens the costs of upbringing each individual child. With the given budget limits, parents have to choose between increasing their own usefulness by having more children, and increasing the usefulness by investing in a higher quality of each child. The available parenting time, as the main production factor in raising children, may alternatively be used for raising fewer children of a higher quality or more children of a lower quality.

**Marriage and its market** - Two persons enter a marriage when they reach agreement on their expectations that it would be better for them to get married than to stay single. There is a marriage market of a kind, in which individuals compete with each other for

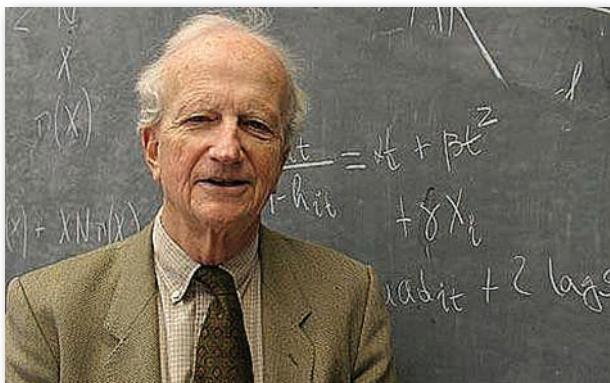
## Recognitions

1. 1967 - John Bates Clark Medal to the most prominent American economist under the age of forty;
2. 1992 - Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences;
3. 1997 - Recognition of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences;
4. 2000 - National Medal of Science;
5. 2004 - John von Neumann Award;
6. 2007 - Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Becker is one of the founders of the National Academy of Education; an associate of the American Statistical Association, the Econometric Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; a fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, the American Economic Society, etc.

Moreover, he is the recipient of honorary titles from a dozen universities worldwide: Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Illinois College, Princeton, Harvard and Columbia University, Hitotsubashi University of Japan, etc.





U slučaju vlasnika kapitala koji primenjuje diskriminaciju dolazi do promene funkcije cilja, više ne maksimizuje profit već korisnost, a lične karakteristike zaposlenih (boja kože, pripadnost nekoj etničkoj grupi ili konfesiji) kao argument ulaze u funkciju korisnosti. Diskriminacija, Bekerov je zaključak, obara ekonomsku efikasnost. Ljubav prema mržnji mora da plati pa će se tako na uverljiv način pokazati privrženost idealima rasizma ili nekim drugim idealima iz tog dijapazona.

**Kriminal kao racionalna kategorija** - Ponuda kriminala po Bekeru zavisi od svih onih faktora koji utiču na očekivanu korisnost koju donosi kršenje zakona. Očekivana korisnost te

vrste opada sa porastom zaprećene kazne, kao i sa porastom verovatnoće otkrivanja počinioaca krivičnog dela, odnosno donošenja njegove pravosnažne osuđujuće presude.

**Interesne grupe** - Interesne grupe u društvu se bore za uvećanje ličnog blagostanja. Tražnja za političkim uticajem zasnovana je na maksimizaciji ličnog blagostanja pripadnika interesnih grupa. Iznos blagostanja oduzetog jednoj interesnoj grupi ne mora da bude jednak iznosu prirasta blagostanja druge grupe. Prvi nalaz Bekerovog modela je da ravnoteža na političkom tržištu nije efikasna. Ona se može ostvariti uz manje apsolutno angažovanje resursa namenjenih za stvaranje političkog pritiska - isti ravnotežni politički pritisak može da se ostvari uz manje troškove. Drugi bitan nalaz Bekerovog modela je da se relativizuje značaj problema slepog putnika, budući da je bitan jedino relativni politički pritisak interesnih grupa. Najznačajniji rezultat Bekerovog modela je da konkurencija interesnih grupa za preraspodelu blagostanja dovodi do uspostavljanja državnih politika koje uvećavaju efikasnost alokacije resursa.

## Literatura / References

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2. [www.nobelprize.org](http://www.nobelprize.org)

finding the best possible marriage partner. Monogamy is the optimal form of marriage and it maximizes the production of basic goods. If a man's productivity differs, polygamy can be the optimal form. Polygamy will be more frequent in case of more productive males, which Becker explains by referring to the cynical remark of Bernard Shaw: "The maternal *instinct* leads a woman to prefer a tenth share in a first rate man to the exclusive possession of a third rate one."

**Discrimination** - For Becker there are no economic causes of discrimination, but only its economic consequences. In case of a capital owner practising discrimination the function of his objective changes. No longer is profit being maximized, but benefits, and the personal characteristics of the employees (skin colour, ethnical group or confession) serve as an argument in the function of such benefits. Discrimination, as Becker concludes, impedes economic efficiency. Love of hatred has to pay, hence, in a rather convincing way, the devotion to the ideals of racism or some other ideals from the same category get illustrated.

**Crime as a rational category** - According to Becker, the scope of crime depends on all those factors impacting the expected benefits from breaking the law. The expected benefits

of such kind decrease with the growth of the threatened punishment, and with the increase of the probability that the perpetrator of a criminal offence would be detected, and his lawful, convicting sentence duly passed.

**Interest groups** - Interest groups in a society fight for increasing their personal welfare. Demand for political influence is based on the maximization of personal welfare of interest group members. The amount of welfare taken from one interest group does not necessarily have to equal the amount of accumulated welfare of another group. The first discovery of the Becker's model is that the equilibrium in the political market is inefficient. It can be achieved by lower absolute engagement of resources intended for causing political pressures - in other words, the same political pressure can be achieved with reduced costs. The second important discovery of the Becker's model is to relativize the importance of a "free rider" problem, given that only the relative political pressure of interest groups is truly important. The most significant outcome of the Becker's model is that the competition of interest groups for re-allocation of welfare leads to the establishment of state policies increasing the efficiency of resources allocation.