Human Desire and Economic Satisfaction

Essays on the Frontiers of Economics

Tibor Scitovsky

Professor of Economics Emeritus Stanford University, California



WHEATSHEAF BOOKS

Contents

Preface	vii
Part I	
Welfare and Its Distribution	1
1. Equity	3
2. The Place of Economic Welfare in Human	
Welfare	13
3. Inequalities: Open and Hidden, Measured and	
Unmeasurable	26
Part II	
Irrationality in Puritanism	35
4. What's Wrong with the Arts Is What's Wrong with	
Society	37
5. Notes on the Producer Society	47
6. Are Men Rational or Economists Wrong?	70
Part III	
Faces of Capitalism	83
7. Can Capitalism Survive? – An Old Question in a	
New Setting	85
8. Price Takers' Plenty: A Neglected Benefit of Monopoly	
Capitalism	97
Part IV	
What Progress Leads to	115
9. Can Changing Consumer Tastes Save Resources?	117
10. The Desire for Excitement in Modern Society	128
11. Excess Demand for Job Importance and Its Implications	136
12. Subsidies for the Arts: The Economic Argument	149
13. The Economy's Impact on Family and Social	
Relations in America	160
14. How to Bring Joy into Economics	183

vi Contents

A -le ouladaements	204
Acknowledgements	203
ndex of Names	207
ndex of Subjects	