



The economics of just about everything

Andrew Leigh

Tuesday 29 July 2014, 11am

Location

John Reid Lecture
Theatre, AGSM Building
(Corner of Magill and Botany
Streets, Kensington)

RSVP

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with 'Sydney Launch' in the
subject header.



'Essential reading for the 21st century.' KARL KRUSZELNICKI

ANDREW LEIGH

THE
ECONOMICS
OF JUST ABOUT

EVERYTHING

The hidden reasons for our curious
choices and surprising successes in life



This event is free and open
to the public.

Did you know that another 10cm of height boosts your income by thousands of dollars per year? Or that a boy born in January is nearly twice as likely to play first grade rugby league as a boy born in December? Or that natural disasters attract more foreign aid if they happen on a slow news day? And that a perfectly clean desk can be as inefficient as a messy one?

Drawing on examples and data from across Australia, Andrew Leigh shows how economics can be used to illuminate what happens on the sporting field, in the stockmarket, and at work. Economics has things to say about AC/DC and Arthur Boyd, dating and dieting, Grange and Geelong, murder and poverty. Incentives matter, often in surprising ways and seemingly simple everyday activities can have unexpected outcomes. Insights from behavioural economics can also help us make better decisions.

Andrew Leigh is the Shadow Assistant Treasurer and Federal Member for Fraser in the ACT. Prior to being elected in 2010, Andrew was a professor of economics at the Australian National University. Andrew holds a PhD in public policy from Harvard, having graduated from the University of Sydney with first class honours in Law and Arts. He has previously worked as a lawyer and as a principal adviser to the Australian Treasury. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Social Sciences, the only parliamentarian to be a fellow of one of the four national academies. In 2011, he received the 'Young Economist Award', a prize given every two years by the Economics Society of Australia to the best Australian economist under 40. His other books include *Disconnected* (2010), *Battlers and Billionaires* (2013).

"What do you get when you cross a politician with an economist? A captivating, charming, and nicely-written book. Who knew?"

ANNABEL CRABB