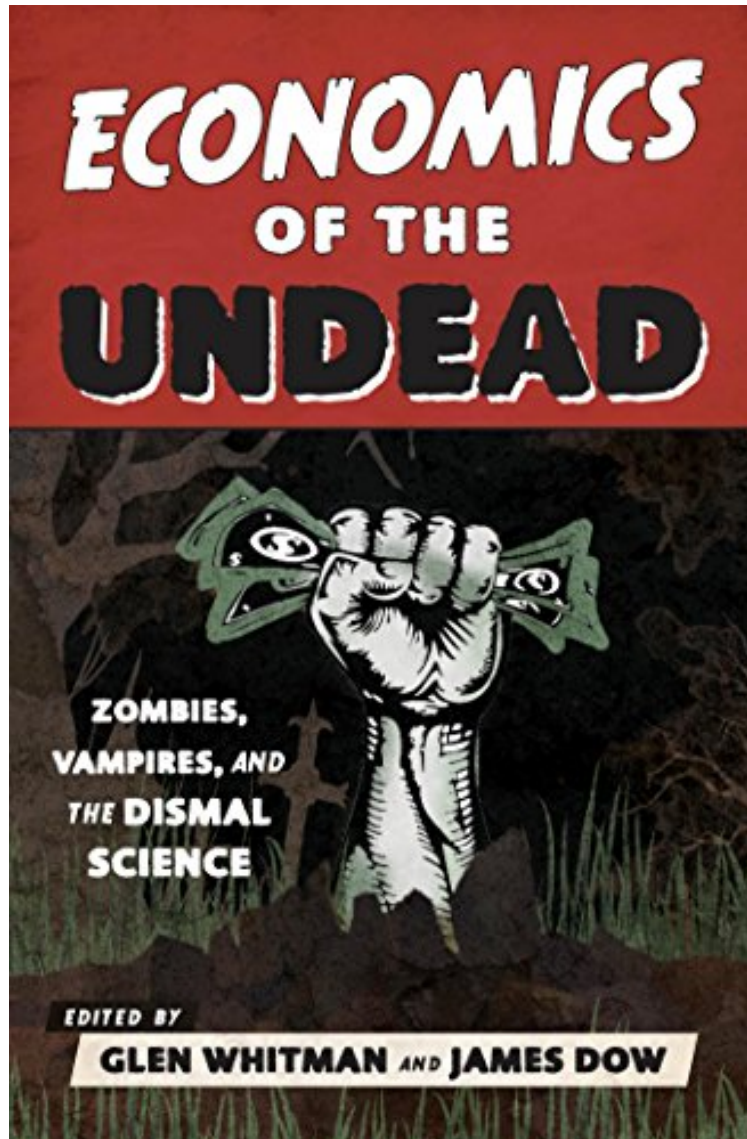


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## Economics of the Undead: Zombies, Vampires, and the Dismal Science

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**From Rowman Littlefield Publishers :** Economics of the Undead: Zombies, Vampires, and the Dismal Science before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Economics of the Undead: Zombies, Vampires, and the Dismal Science:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great mix of economics and pop cultureBy Kuba Furma?skiI really enjoyed this book. It is nice blend of economics, pop culture and a little bit of history of economics.You will find

answers to questions what skills would be crucial in post-zombie world (alcohol production), why vampires will pay for bloodsucking not the other way around and what will be the Z era new gold standard. How to invest like a vampire (laying down in a coffin is very important). Personally, I really enjoyed chapter about time and calendar vs. Dracula. It looks like capitalism is not a blood sucker (see communistic propaganda) but an allie to Van Helsing and his group. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A fun and educational read By Longhrnlax A fun and educational read. I've used examples from the book to engage my high school Economics students. Some concepts are outside their curriculum, but for Poli Sci/Eco nerds like me, it's smart and not too overly complex at points. It got me to finally watch The Walking Dead, despite my anti-pop culture nature. Big thumbs up! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By M. Jenkins This was purchased as a gift; the recipient has been thrilled with it.

Whether preparing us for economic recovery after the zombie apocalypse, analyzing vampire investment strategies, or illuminating the market forces that affect vampire-human romances, *Economics of the Undead: Zombies, Vampires, and the Dismal Science* gives both seasoned economists and layman readers something to sink their teeth into. Undead characters have terrified popular audiences for centuries, but when analyzed closely, their behaviors and stories—however far-fetched—mirror our own in surprising ways. The essays collected in this book are as humorous as they are thoughtful, as culturally relevant as they are economically sound, and provide an accessible link between a popular culture phenomenon and the key concepts necessary to building one's understanding of economic systems big and small. It is the first book to apply and combine economics and our society's fascination with the undead, and is an invaluable resource for those looking to learn economic fundamentals in a fun and innovative way. Contributions by: Kyle William Bishop, Eleanor Brown, Ian Chadd, Darwynn Deyo, Steven Horwitz, Daniel Farhat, Jean-Baptiste Fleury, Enrique Guerra-Pujol, Brian Hollar, Sebastien Lecou, Joseph Mandarino, Alain Marciano, Fabien Medvecky, David T. Mitchell, Michael Orsquo;Hara, M. Christine Phillips, A. Lynn Phillips, G. Michael Phillips, Lorna Piatti-Farnell, Robert Prga, Hollis Robbins, Sarah Skwire, Ilya Somin, David Tufte, Mary Jo Tufte, and Charlotte Weil

Whitman and Dow, both professors of economics at California State University, Northridge, gather 23 essays that explore the centrality of economic issues to today's popular vampire and zombie novels and films. Whitman uses vampire romance to explain marriage markets, suggesting, among other things, that undead love tales shed light on the sunk cost fallacy. Dow takes the characteristic wealth of vampires (they do have to finance a very long retirement) as an excuse to talk about compound interest. Other essays connect the zombie apocalypse with Adam Smith (how will postapocalypse survivors 'return to their prior level of prosperity'?), *True Blood* to privatization, zombie invasion to problems like the spread of feral hogs in the U.S., and the residential and geographic choices of the undead to the Tiebout Hypothesis. More insightfully, contributor Lorna Piatti-Farnell notices the way Gothic language pervades Marx's writings about capitalism. This frothy foray into Econ 101 might seduce freshman to the dismal science. (Publishers Weekly) *Economics of the Undead*, edited by Glen Whitman and James Dow . . . is the perfect blend of smart and pop culture. On the one hand, it is a deep collection of studies and economic thought, referencing Adam Smith and Charles M. Tiebout, who defined the theory on local community. On the other, it is jammed with examples from *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* to *Dawn of the Dead* (any and all versions). . . . *Economics of the Undead* goes in a wide variety of directions, giving something for anyone who wants to ponder the impact of the dead-alive. (Blogcritics) Perhaps the best aspect of *Economics of the Undead* is that it links what is so often considered an escapist genre to the real world. As outlined above, many of the theories that are applied to the undead figures also have practical economic, social, and political applications. . . . Whitman, Dow, et al have certainly made a convincing argument for the relevance of undead workings in the field of economics. Recognising that a vampire can be persuaded to trade with the living rather than stealing their blood; having a sense of security under the terms of comprehensive zombification insurance; appreciating the fact that this dazzling creature in front of you might just be your new Tinder date— the volume encourages us to ponder these scenarios and more. *Economics of the Undead: Zombies, Vampires and the Dismal Science* permits the reader to rest easy in the knowledge that their next graveyard encounter with the supernatural will be decidedly less one-sided. (The Irish Journal of Gothic and Horror Studies) These are serious people taking on serious topics— that's worth thinking about, isn't it? (Stephen J. Dubner, *Freakonomics* podcast, "What Can Vampires Teach Us About Economics?" (2014)) For too long, economics has been lagging behind the other social sciences in explaining the political economy of the undead. With this volume, Whitman and Dow take a lurching step forward in closing the gap. (Daniel W. Drezner, Professor of International Politics, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University) Those who are looking to get their finances in order for the coming Zombie apocalypse should definitely buy this book. But so should anyone else who is interested in how the worlds of zombie and vampire movies would really work—or for that matter, anyone who is interested in having complex economic topics lucidly and entertainingly explained. Whether you are a professional economist, a *Buffy* fan, or a vampire, you will learn something new and interesting in every chapter. (Megan McArdle, columnist at Bloomberg View) About the Author Dr. Glen Whitman and Dr. James Dow are both

professors of economics at California State University, Northridge. Whitman is also the author of *Strange Brew: Alcohol and Government Monopoly*.