



**Multimedia Library Collection: Environmental Values (journal)**

## **"Four Dogmas of Environmental Economics"**

Sagoff, Mark

Sagoff, Mark. "Four Dogmas of Environmental Economics." *Environmental Values* 3, no. 4, (1994): 285–310.  
[doi:10.3197/096327194776679638](https://doi.org/10.3197/096327194776679638) .

Four dogmas have shaped modern neoclassical economics. The first proposes that markets may fail to allocate resources efficiently, that is, to those willing to pay the most for them. The second asserts that choices, particularly within markets, reveal preferences. The third is the assumption that people always make the choices they expect will benefit them or enhance their welfare. The fourth dogma holds that perfectly competitive markets will allocate resources to their most beneficial uses. This is the doctrine of the invisible hand.

— Text from [The White Horse Press website](#)

All rights reserved. © 1994 The White Horse Press

**Download:**

PDF: [https://www.environmentandsociety.org/sites/default/files/key\\_docs/sagoff\\_3\\_4.pdf](https://www.environmentandsociety.org/sites/default/files/key_docs/sagoff_3_4.pdf)

**Related links:**

- Article on the official website  
<http://www.erica.demon.co.uk/EV/EV316.html>
- The White Horse Press  
<http://www.erica.demon.co.uk/>

**Websites linked in this text:**

- [http://dx.doi.org/10.3197/096327194776679638](https://doi.org/10.3197/096327194776679638)
- <http://www.erica.demon.co.uk/EV/EV316.html>