



## Gary Stanley Becker



Pottsville, PA, USA, 2 December 1930 - Chicago, IL, USA, 3 May 2014

**Nomination** 3 March 1997

**Field** Economics

**Title** Professor, Nobel laureate in Economic Sciences, 1992

### Most important awards, prizes and academies

*Honors and awards:* John Bates Clark Medal, American Economic Association (1964); Nobel Prize in Economics (1992); Lord Foundation Award (1995); Honorary Member, Gente Nueva, Mexico City (1996); Irene B. Taeuber Award for Excellence in Demographic Research, Population Association of America (1997); National Medal of Science (2000); Phoenix Prize, University of Chicago (2000); American Academy of Achievement (2001); Heartland Prize (2002); NICHD Hall of Honor (2003); Hayek Award (2003); Medal of the Italian Presidency (2004); John von Neumann Lecture Award, Rajk College, Corvinus Univ., Budapest (2004); Arrow Award for Best Article in Health Economics (2005); Provost's Teaching Award, University of Chicago (2006); Presidential Medal of Freedom (2007). *Honorary degrees:* Doctor Philosophiae Honoris Causa, Hebrew University, Jerusalem (1985); Doctor of Laws, Knox College, Galesburg, IL (1985); Doctor of Arts, University of Illinois at Chicago (1988); Doctor of Sciences, SUNY at Stony Brook, NY (1990); Doctor of Humane Letters, Princeton University (1991); Doctor Philosophiae Honoris Causa, University of Palermo, Italy; University of Buenos Aires, Argentina (1993); Doctor Honoris Causa Scientiarum Oeconomicarum, Warsaw School of Economics (1995); Doctor Honoris Causa, University of Economics, Prague (1995); Doctor of Business Administration, University of Miami (1995); Doctor of Science, University of Rochester (1995); Doctor of Humane Letters, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY (1997); Doctor of Humane Letters, University d'Aix-Marseilles (1999); Doctor Honoris Causa, University of Athens (2002); Doctor of Laws, Harvard University (2003); Doctor Honoris Causa, Hitotsubashi University (2005). *Academies:* Founding Member, National Academy of Education (1965, Vice-President 1965-67); Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1972); Member, National Academy of Sciences (1975); Member, American Philosophical Society (1986); Pontifical Academy of Sciences (1997); Corresponding Member, National Academy of Sciences of Buenos Aires (2000).

### Summary of scientific research

Gary Stanley Becker's research interests have been wide-ranging and have covered a broad spectrum of interests ranging from human capital and the economics of discrimination to general economic theory and the economic approach to human behaviour. He has also concentrated on such subjects as the family, accounting for tastes and the economics of life. A detailed specialist, he has also sought a wide audience for his discipline and his thought. Prof. Becker is a prominent 'savant', recognised and appreciated with universally high respect by the members of the world's communities of economists and experts in public policy.

### Main publications

Becker, G.S., Murphy, K.M., *Social Economics*, Harvard University Press (2000); Becker, G.S., *Familie, Gesellschaft und Politik* (Family, Society and State), J.C.B. Mohr (Paul Siebeck) (1996); Becker, G.S., *The Economics of Life*, McGraw-Hill, Inc. (1996), translations: Chinese (1997), German, Japanese (1998), Czech (1997), Spanish (2002), Polish (2006); Becker, G.S., *Accounting for Tastes*, Harvard University Press (1996), translations: Czech (1998), Chinese (1999), Italian (2000); Becker, G.S., *A Treatise on the Family*, Harvard University Press (1981), expanded edition (1991), translations: Spanish (1987), Chinese (1988, 2000); Becker, G.S., *The Economic Approach to Human Behavior*, University of Chicago Press (1976), translations: German

(1982), Polish (1990), Chinese (1993), Romanian (1994), Italian (1998); Becker, G.S., *Essays in Labor Economics in Honor of H. Gregg Lewis*, (ed.), Special Supplement to the Journal of Political Economy 84, n. 2, part 2 (August 1976); Becker, G.S., *The Allocation of Time and Goods Over the Life Cycle*, with Gilbert Ghez, Columbia University Press for the National Bureau of Economic Research (1975); Becker, G.S., *Essays in the Economics of Crime and Punishment* (with W.M. Landes, eds.), Columbia University Press for the National Bureau of Economic Research (1974); Becker, G.S., *Economic Theory*, A. Knopf (1971), Japanese translation (1976); Becker, G.S., *Human Capital and the Personal Distribution of Income: An Analytical Approach*, University of Michigan (1967); Becker, G.S., *Human Capital*, Columbia University Press (1964), 2nd edition (1975), 3rd edition (1993), University of Chicago Press, translations: Japanese (1975), Spanish (1984), Chinese (1987, 2008), Romanian (1997), Italian (2007); Becker, G.S., *The Economics of Discrimination*, Univ. of Chicago Press (1957); 2nd edition (1971).