

#### George Mason University School of Law

Dean Henry N. Butler, JD, PhD

11<sup>th</sup> Annual Liability Regimes Conference

Keeping the Floodgates Shut? Mastering Accumulation and Bodily Injury Exposures in a Rapidly Changing Environment

4–5 November 2015, Rüschlikon

### GEORGE ASON UNIVERSITY

School of Law Law, Economics, and Judicial Education Dean Henry N. Butler, JD, PhD LEARN. CHALLENGE. LEA

## Law & Economics Center

School of Law

- Over 40 years and over 4,000 judges
- Economics Institute for Judges
  - Basic Microeconomic Concepts
  - How markets work?
  - What happens when government interferes with markets?
  - Market Imperfections and the economic case for regulation
  - Is government regulation perfect?

# The Art of Economics



"The Art of Economics consists in looking not merely at the immediate but also at the longer effects of any act or policy; it consists in tracing the consequences of that policy not merely for one group but for all groups."

Henry Hazlitt, Economics in One Lesson (1947)

• The Law of Unintended Consequences



# Litigation and Incentives

- Suit and Settlement in the American Civil Justice System
- Systematic Perversions of Justice and Due Process
  - Overcriminalization
  - Huge Discovery Costs
  - Punitive Damages
  - Third Party Litigation Financing
- The Enabling Roll of Judges in the Process

### Economic Impact of Perverse Incentives in American Civil Justice



- Consumers
- Defense Community
- The Rule of Law