

SCHWARTZMAN ADVISING PRESENTS

HOW TO TALK TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT WEALTH

*Creating conversations that lead to healthy
attitudes and behaviors about money.*

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Sue has over two decades of experience working with high net worth individuals, teens, and multi-generational families to systematically and strategically engage in philanthropy and volunteerism. Her authentic and personal approach includes unfolding what people care and are passionate about and developing strategic plans for acting upon these determined values.

SCHWARTZMAN ADVISING

Our passion lies in building authentic connections with all family members, young and old, setting up systems that allow families to thrive generation to generation, and ultimately leaving a lasting impact on both the family and community they are proud of. We connect with each family member to elevate them personally and to help them reach their apogee of philanthropic and personal potential.

We're focused on cultivating lasting, multi-generational relationships and advising on all aspects that allow families to live well with wealth.

**SCHWARTZMAN
ADVISING**

**CONNECT, TRANSFORM
& INSPIRE**

helping families use wealth to achieve their highest philanthropic purpose and potential

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HOW TO TALK TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT WEALTH



HOW DO YOU RAISE KIDS THESE DAYS TO BE MORE PHILANTHROPIC?



The seasons of our lives cycle more quickly each year. Precious moments are speeding by and we as parents must capture opportunities to connect on a deeper values-based level around money, giving and doing good for the world. Read on for a guide to get started.



GET STARTED



START WITH MAKING OPPORTUNITIES TO HAVE CONVERSATIONS

BEGIN BY MAKING THE MOST OF SIMPLE MOMENTS LIKE
SHARING A BOOK OR WATCHING A MOVIE.

These experiences prompt conversations and trigger deeper exploration of family values with your kids.

Become more action oriented by trying one of the following activities:

- work in a community garden
- help your kids create a lemonade stand for their favorite charity
- clean out their closets and bring the clothes to the local shelter

It is not enough to do, watch or read—the trick is to talk about the experience and share how your beliefs are reflected in the themes of the books, the movies you watch, or experiences you share. Some suggestions for books, movies and volunteering can be found in the following pages.

There are also many experiences that you likely already take part in, like visiting grandparents, exploring a museum, or travelling, that are ripe opportunities for value based discussions.

“ *Don't be shy about sharing where your values come from* ”

CREATE SHARED EXPERIENCES

1. SHARE FAMILY HISTORY STORIES

BETWEEN KIDS, PARENTS, AND GRANDPARENTS

Just by having the conversations, you open the door for kids to talk about what matters to them.

You can encourage your kids to select a story recording method that works for them: some may want to tech-up this project by using a mobile phone to record the stories and then pair the stories with old photos and music from the same era. Some may want to illustrate the story themselves. Let them do what they need to make it theirs. Be sure they have a chance to tell their story too.

Four good story starters to ask are:

- What life experiences - historical or familial - most informed who you are?
- What are the values that motivate you to be charitable?
- What are you passionate about?
- What wisdom do you want me, your children or your grandchildren to remember in life?



These questions are taken from the Grandparent Legacy Project- a step by step guide to sharing your heritage and available at <https://2164.net/product/the-grandparent-legacy-project/>



CREATE SHARED EXPERIENCES

2. CREATE A SCAVENGER HUNT

Whether you are traveling in the states or having a staycation, opportunities abound to discover new things and initiate important conversations.

Walk on Main Street by your house or in the city you are visiting and try some of the following:

Do a quick scan and count the pieces of trash you see on the ground between two points.

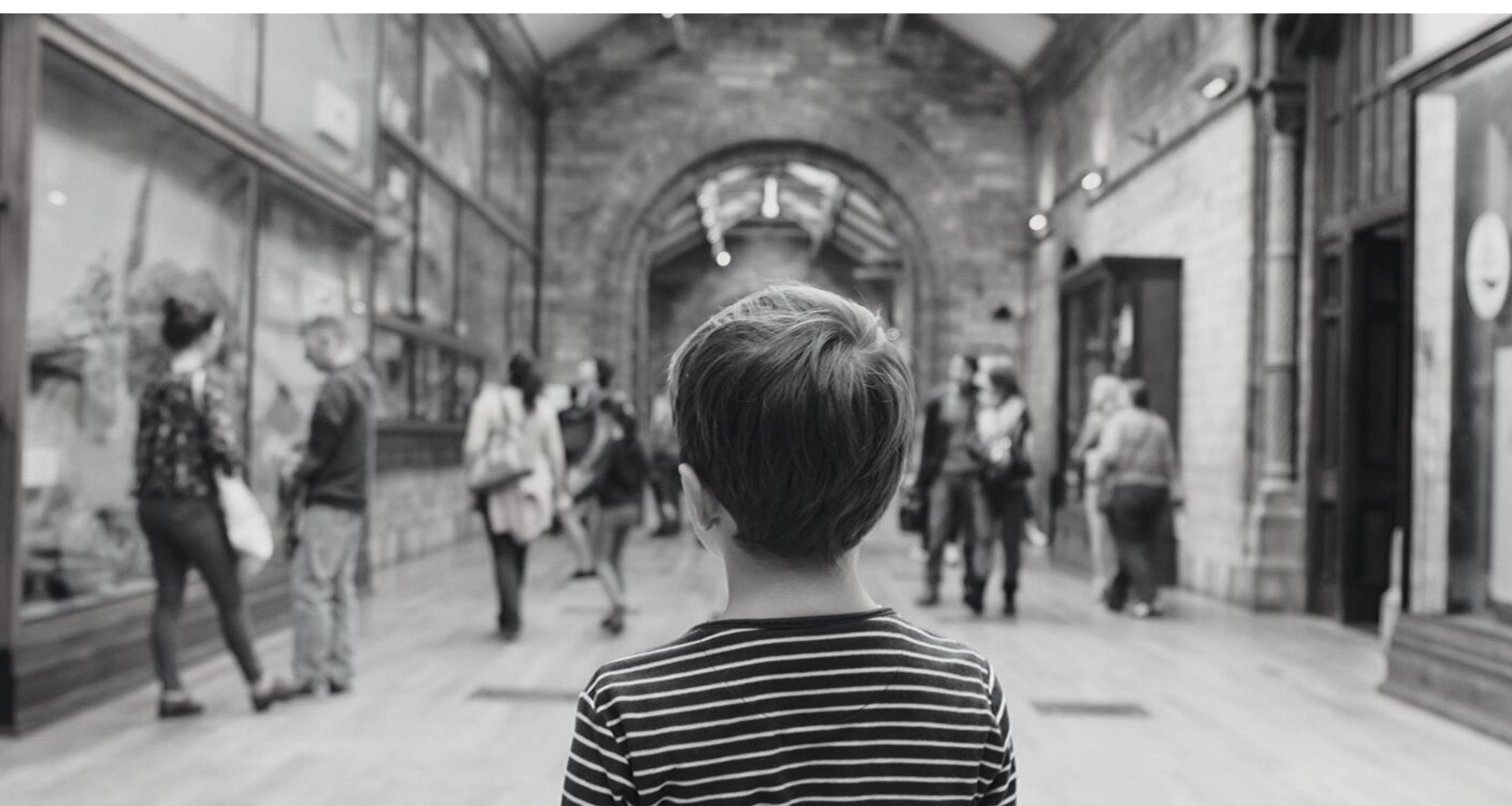
- Who do you think is responsible for keeping the streets clean?
- City workers, citizens, a company?
- If you are traveling, ask is this the same or different from where you live?

Set distance perimeters (over the next mile or next 6 blocks) and observe the people.

- Name any community needs made obvious by what you see?
- Is there a need for homeless shelters, food banks, grocery stores, mental or physical health centers, access to social services?
- If there are no social needs apparent, ask the locals some questions about social services and where those in need of shelter go.
- How many public drinking fountains, showers and restrooms do you pass?
- Where do people go if there are few of these facilities around?



CREATE SHARED EXPERIENCES



3. ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR SURROUNDINGS

While waiting in line at the museum or aquarium, have your kids count the total number of names on the donor wall.

- Do they recognize any?
- Is there more space on the wall?
- Why is that?
- Ask the kids why they think the names are on the wall and why people gave money to be there.
- Have them go to guest services and ask if there are discount tickets available for those who can't afford a ticket.
- Have them ask if the building has special parking or accommodations for those who need it (the elderly or those with physical disabilities)

CREATE SHARED EXPERIENCES

4. TRAVELING ABROAD

If you are travelling, consider visiting some non-profits or community centers to get a feel of how people live and their quality of life.

“ Create family rituals of doing & giving together.



CREATE SHARED EXPERIENCES

5. READ A BOOK

READ TOGETHER OR READ ON YOUR OWN AND TALK ABOUT THE BOOK.



Two Measly Spots Explore the idea of what “enough” truly means. *By Sue Schwartzman and Elaine Gast Fawcett*
Illustrations by Luciana Navarro Powell

A Shelter in Our Car The sharing of a young girl’s experience homelessness in America *By Monica Gunning*
Illustrations by Elaine Pedlar

Fly Away Home A young boys experience of homelessness in America
By Eve Bunting Illustrated by Ronald Himler

The Power of Half One Family’s Decision to Stop Taking and Start Giving Back *By Kevin and Hannah Salwen 6th grade-high school*

Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America The author goes “undercover” as an unskilled worker to reveal the dark side of American prosperity. *By Barbara Ehrenreich High school and older*

CREATE SHARED EXPERIENCES



6. WATCH A MOVIE

SAVE TIME TO TALK ABOUT IT AFTER AND INVITE YOUR KID'S FRIENDS TO JOIN.

Here are some recommended movies and Discussion Questions:

Pay It Forward (PG13)

Does doing a good deed for satisfaction sake, or to feel good, lessen the deed? What motivates our actions? What motivates you to take responsibility for fixing the world?

The Pursuit of Happyness (PG13) How is Chris the same or different from the image of a homeless person in your town? Was Chris's decision to live on the streets while trying to get ahead a good one? Why or why not? What do you think his son learned from the experience?

Freedom Writers (PG13)

Who are the people in your life that motivate you to succeed? How do we sometimes give in to attitudes and behaviors that we know are not "healthy" just because everyone else is doing it? Why is there an inequity of resources in public high schools?

The Mighty (PG13)

How do we select our friends? How do we embrace or react to people that are different from us?

CREATE SHARED EXPERIENCES

7. VOLUNTEER

CONNECT AROUND VALUES; CREATE MEANINGFUL MEMORIES

Project Giving Kids

They do the work to create meaningful volunteer connections.

Come up with a Family Project

Have the kids design it, using their interests and skills

Environmental Volunteers EcoCenter

Palo Alto office, serves the greater bay area offering group experiences.

Hands On Bay Area

Teen Volunteer Summer Internships

There are some standard tried and true places: Soup Kitchens, Community Gardens. Skilled Nursing or Senior Homes visits where kids can bring large print card games, art projects, or entertain the residents. Give your kids a few conversation starters like:

- How did you spend your free time growing up?
- What was your favorite subject in school?
- What is your favorite moment in sports history and why?
- Who is your favorite literary character and why?
- Any advice for a kid growing up today?



CREATE SHARED EXPERIENCES



8. **PLAY GAMES**

“WHATS YOUR ENOUGH?” TEEN TOOL

Do you have more than enough of something? Not enough of something else? Or do you have just enough? This simple exercise will help you think about what is enough to be, to do, and to have.

This tool gives you an opportunity to assess where your needs are already met, what you want more of in your life, and where you may have extra to give.



<https://Changewhenlinked.com/>



LEAD WITH YOUR VALUES

- PARENT WITH INTENTION AROUND MONEY -

Congrats! You've covered a decent amount of material here. I hope you have enjoyed reading this guide and are excited to try out some of the tips with your family.

Progress

Choose one of my above tips and just get started! With regular practice, it will soon become natural to have family conversations around money and wealth.

If you get stuck

I am available for further coaching and tips on raising well grounded kids with wealth. Just give me a shout! I can be reached via email at sue@schwartzmanadvising.com

THANK YOU!

Be sure to check our website for future publications, additional resources, and upcoming events and seminars,



AT SCHWARTZMAN ADVISING, WE ARE FOCUSED ON CULTIVATING LASTING, MULTI-GENERATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS AND ADVISING ON ALL ASPECTS THAT ALLOW FAMILIES TO LIVE WELL WITH WEALTH

LEARN MORE AT [SCHWARTZMANADVISING.COM](https://schwartzmanadvising.com)

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