



retirement plan **advisors**

It's All About the Money... right?

The other day, I found myself reflecting on some of the great minds which have shaped and influenced the way in which we understand one another, the world, and our place in it: Immanuel Kant, Albert Einstein, Sir Isaac Newton, Aristotle, Arne Garborg... Arne who? Unless you're heavy into Norwegian writers, Arne Garborg is probably not a name with which you're familiar, nor one you would likely seek to include on such an illustrious list of thinkers. Truth be told, I hadn't heard of Arne Garborg either until I stumbled on this quote of his a few months ago:

"For money you can have everything it is said. No, that is not true. You can buy food, but not appetite; medicine, but not health; soft beds, but not sleep; knowledge but not intelligence; glitter, but not comfort; fun, but not pleasure; acquaintances, but not friendship; servants, but not faithfulness; grey hair, but not honor; quiet days, but not peace.

The shell of all things you can get for money. But not the kernel. That cannot be had for money."

I don't know about you, but for me, Arne hit the nail on the head. True, we can purchase a lot of stuff with money, but we can't buy the essence of experience, relationships or happiness. We devote so much time and energy to creating a plan for accumulating wealth and security, we often overlook the purpose those assets aim to support! Money is important, yes, but as Mr. Garborg so aptly notes, purpose and joy cannot be bought.

Exercise: Take a moment or two to conduct a personal "Joy Inventory." List 10 things in your life that bring you joy. How much time and money (if any) are you currently allocating to the items on your list? Place a checkmark next to each item that requires a major capital outlay.