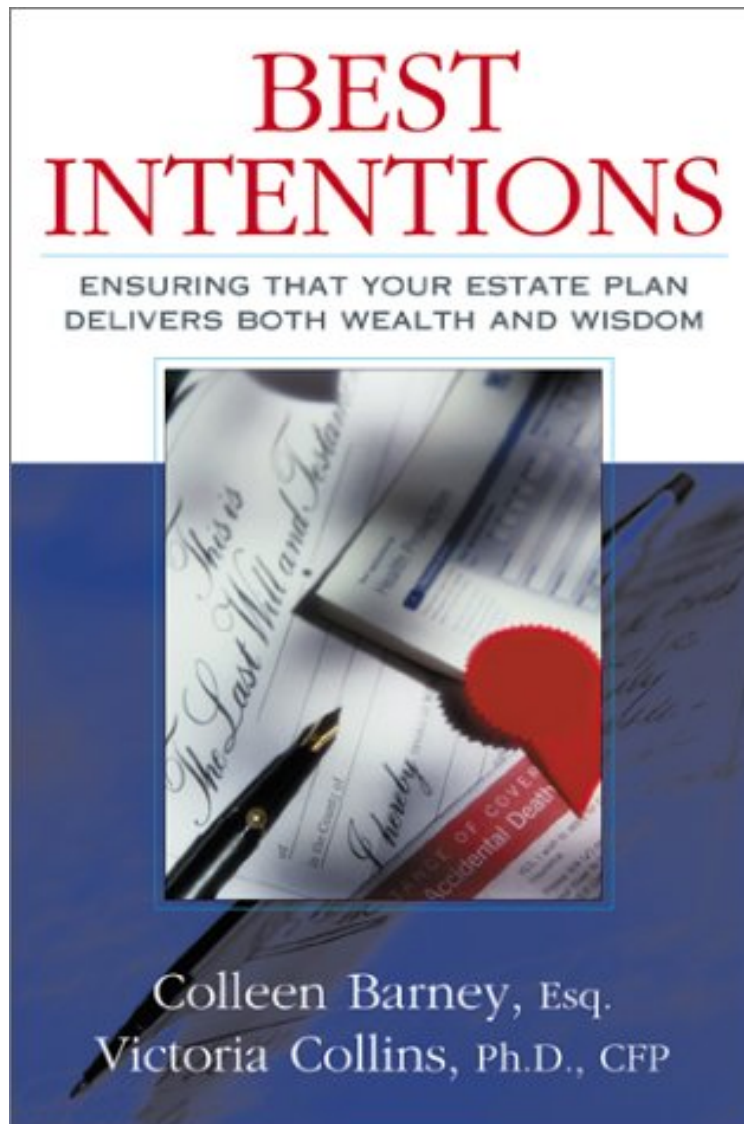


Best Intentions

Colleen Barney, Victoria Collins
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Colleen Barney, Victoria Collins : Best Intentions before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Best Intentions:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great Description in story formBy Hello From HereThe book isn't written from a technical perspective but the from the often overlooked heart-side of estate planning. The book walks through stories about money being transferred with great intentions but the consequences ended up going south.In the authors own words, Best Intentions encourages us to look inside ourselves, to identify what is important to us, and to

see our estate plan from the perspective of those who come after us. We hope this book prompts thoughtful reflection, meaningful dialogue, and estate planning that does just what you want it to do (last paragraph in the forward). If you are new to estate planning or a seasoned pro you will find nuggets of gold in here. I highly recommend this book for people who are thinking about bequeathing money to your heirs. The book primarily consists of stories told through letters that really bring out the feelings of those who have been through the pains and some upside of inheriting cash, going through probate court, and other real life examples. As a financial planner and heir to a substantial fortune I have seen many of these cases to be true and very real. If anything they are painting the picture too pretty of the fights and emotional baggage that comes from these family squabbles. In an industry where the technical proficiency is no longer the only dividing factor, books like this help to separate those who care about your heart and those who are merely making a pay check. I would highly recommend thinking through these issues with prayer and serious deliberation. The effects aren't always what you desire. This book can save your family years of pain and heartache. Enjoy! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. a must have for all adults By O. C. no matter how many or little assets you have, this book will help real life stories on what happened to the family after the death of a loved one there were some smart planners, and others who did not do such a good job yet others who thought they planned things out well but turned out that they did not get advice from the correct sources please, if you have children especially, buy this book and then make a plan - it will help your family stay together and avoid the unfortunate fighting and severing of relationships that so often follows a death... also, a hint, if you have more than one adult child, please do not give the total responsibility to only one child (executor) of your will or trust - please divide this among your children - if you want them to remain close, please do not show favoritism this way... it can be a crushing blow to those you leave out of the loop... it will also ease the burden on any "one" person chosen... i loved this book 11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Estate Planning Made Easy By Robert A. Wagoner An excellent book -- the best I've ever read on the subject. As a financial advisor I can't recommend it enough. Most find estate planning confusing. This book is not confusing. It's an easy read. Each simple, short, touching story illustrates a different problem that can arise by not doing good estate planning. It will make you think about your own situation with more clarity than was possible before. This book could be called Chicken Soup For Your Legacy.

Sometimes, despite careful planning and the best of intentions, life works out differently than expected. In *Best Intentions*, authors Colleen Barney and Victoria Collins examine the impact of estate planning and share stories and letters from and about real people. These are people who, despite careful planning, did not pass on to their loved ones what they had intended—their own special life lessons, messages and financial inheritance. Most books on estate planning center on avoiding probate and paying less in taxes. For the first time ever, a noted financial planner (Collins) and a respected estate attorney (Barney) present a completely new look at a subject usually considered dry and technical, even morbid. They use letters and stories by and about children, parents, and others to focus on nontraditional estate planning concepts like passing on visions and ideals, values and morals, work ethic and guidance, and love. Emphasizing people, their lives, and their desires and goals for future generations, the authors show readers how to: *Understand their own family, social, emotional, and economic dynamics. *Identify what is really important to them. *Tailor uniquely personal estate plans. *Explore alternatives to traditional estate planning concepts. *Balance the financial and emotional aspects of estate planning. Sooner or later, estate planning becomes an important aspect of every individual's life plan. *Best Intentions* enables readers to apply practical, topical, and timely recommendations to their own personal circumstances—whether their net worth is \$10,000, \$10,000,000, or more.

From Booklist Using real-life stories, Barney and Collins highlight the importance of thoughtful estate planning by giving us this challenge: If we could see what happens after our death, what would give us the greatest disappointment, pride, or sense of accomplishment? Discovering the unintended messages in our current plan or lack of one, the authors tell us that not only money but also values, ideals, and feelings should be incorporated into it. We all need an estate plan drafted by a carefully selected lawyer to meet our exact wishes. Not having one may allow the state to decide who makes our medical decisions if we are unable, who inherits our assets, and under what conditions our beneficiaries inherit our assets. This is important information for everyone, and the authors' approach to this complicated topic is relatively easy to understand. Mary Whaley Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "Estate planning books hits heart of the matter... Collins and Barney specifically concentrate on the emotions of estate planning..." -- Richard Mize, *The Daily Oklahoman*, 5/18/02 "This is important information for everyone, and the authors' approach to this complicated topic is relatively easy to understand." -- Booklist, May 15, 2002