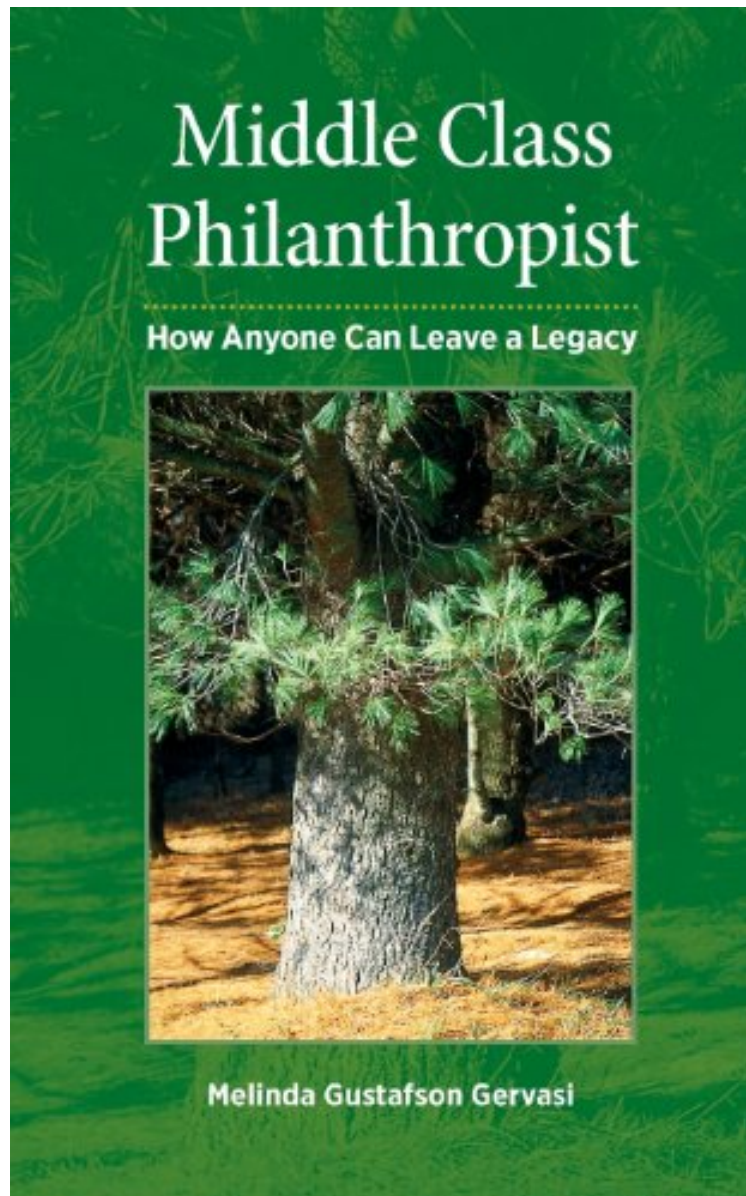


(Library ebook) Middle Class Philanthropist: How Anyone Can Leave a Legacy

Middle Class Philanthropist: How Anyone Can Leave a Legacy

Melinda Gustafson Gervasi

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Melinda Gustafson Gervasi : Middle Class Philanthropist: How Anyone Can Leave a Legacy before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Middle Class Philanthropist: How Anyone Can Leave a Legacy:

4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Starting Point for Thinking about Leaving a Legacy By Charles John

Gervasi This is a very short motivational book on ways average people can make a big difference by remembering causes they believe in in their will. It goes through some of the basic mechanics of what assets should be controlled by a will and which ones by a "pay on death" form at financial institutions. It also talks briefly about in which cases estate taxes come into play and when trusts are useful and when they primarily benefit the attorney who drafts them. There are short accounts of people leaving modest amounts to small humanitarian organizations they knew personally, making a big difference to those organizations. Even for people who plan to leave most of their money to their children or grandchildren, it has ideas to put a small portion of someone's wealth to support important causes. One idea is to leave specific items to an organization that can put them to good use, e.g. The Sewing Machine Project. Another idea is for people who keep a small account for holiday giving to bequeath it to a cause they believe in, even if the bulk of their estate goes to family members. The reader comes away with the idea that average people focused on causes and organizations they know personally can change the world more than a few very wealthy people. A fast reader will get through this book in under an hour. It motivates the reader to stop, work out what's important, and then execute it, possibly using an attorney and/or further research. It's not for the DIYer who wants to dig into the technical details of the topic. Disclosure: I am married to the author. I am from a technical background, not a legal or philanthropic background, so I believe I approach it with some objectivity. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By K. McKinstra Practical advice, quick read, will use in my development work at a nonprofit foundation. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Godsend By Adolf Gundersen This book is long overdue, addressing as it does an urgent need. It's highly practical and written with verve but in language any educated lay person can grasp. A godsend for anyone trying to sort out how to give intelligently.

Predating democracy, capitalism, organized religion, and as old as humanity itself, philanthropy exists because things often go wrong, and things can always be better in our world. Nothing about philanthropy requires a person to have excessive amounts of money to make a difference. In *Middle-Class Philanthropist: How anyone can leave a legacy*, Melinda Gustafson Gervasi redefines the conventional view of philanthropy, providing simple and practical tools by which anyone can leave a legacy.