
#LivingMyPromise

December 2019

Editor's note | 1 min 28 sec

It is an intense journey from first knowing about [LivingMyPromise](#) to creating a will that gives half of your wealth to charity. We have been mapping this journey of individuals. That's when we noticed where many of us get stuck short of taking the LMP pledge. Speaking to some folks, we figured out three bottlenecks they face.

The first one is the **reluctance to publicize one's giving**.

It is commonly felt that one's giving should be secret, away from attention or glory. Signatories have realised that LMP is not about showing off your charity works to gain recognition, but about inspiring others to do more and helping set a higher benchmark for giving. As many as 15 of the 35 signatories signed up because they were inspired by one or more of the others.

The second one is the **desire to leave enough for one's children**.

Giving off 50% of your wealth might seem too much. What if your kids need that money for their education and future?

A #LivingMyPromise poll of 483 respondents showed that 72% of them wanted absolutely nothing from their parents' wealth. So ASKING your kids might be a good idea! And then, there was this [news](#) of a youth who dumped his father's gift, a luxury BMW, in the river because he wanted a Jaguar. Perhaps that's not what you want your kids to aspire for. You can help them experience the joy of giving. You can nurture kindness and generosity in children through [science-based strategies](#).

The third reason is **procrastination**.

You are definitely planning to give back to society. But you're busy these days. You will probably do it some other day.

But we don't realize how short time can be and often give less priority to something like writing a will. To make it easy, LMP signatories get access to a range of resources including tips on how to structure their giving. We even have a [will template](#) ready for them.

So, don't delay in making this promise for the betterment of society. If you haven't done it yet, do it now. If not now, when?

Happy Giving!

Did you know? | 7 sec

India has had strong philanthropic momentum in the recent past. [Eight in ten Indians](#) believe that charities have had a positive impact on their local communities.

Where are we? | 5 sec

40 formally on-boarded signatories.

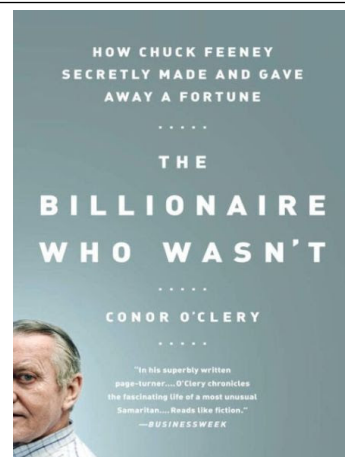
Activity updates | 12 sec

We are starting the new year with an All Signatories Meet. This event will be held in Bengaluru on 25th and 26th January. It's all about meeting other promisers, sharing knowledge and experiences, and learning new things. Signatories, don't forget to block your calendar for the meet.

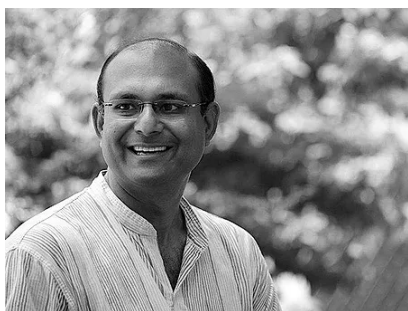
To-Read: The Billionaire Who Wasn't | 17 sec

This book tells the story of Chuck Feeney, a billionaire businessman who anonymously donated all of his wealth to philanthropy. Also known as the *James Bond of Philanthropy*, Feeney's actions started the Giving While Living movement, and inspired Warren Buffett and Bill Gates to start the Giving Pledge.

Our signatories Venkat Krishnan and Amit Chandra highly recommend reading [the book](#).



Balaji is just society's trustee | 1 min



We can't really own money. We just have control over its use. What matters is how well have we spent the money in our custody on creating a better world.

Read Balaji's [story](#).

Surabhi & Hemant hoping to inspire others

| 45 sec

A no-brainer for Mashqura & Sriram | 22

sec



It is our collective means to contribute to making the world a better place. This is an opportunity that allows you to commit yourself and your wealth to a world that works for all.

Read Mashqura & Sriram's [story](#).

A thank you note from Shariq Mohammad

| 1 min 20 sec



Giving is a joy and a rewarding experience. It gives life more meaning and adds an exciting perspective and motivation to create wealth.

Read Surabhi & Hemant's [story](#).

Mansi & Vidyadhar's charity began at home | 52 sec



Over three-fourth wealth in India is held by one-tenth of the population. Only if we give our wealth to the deprived will they reap the benefits and impact.

Read Mansi & Vidyadhar's [story](#).

With a little help from Sanjay | 24 sec



There is a widening gap between economic strata in society. Many can use a little help to change their lives. Sanjay Arora is providing this push to those who deserve.

Read Sanjay's [story](#).



The world would be better if everyone has equal opportunities, equal participation, freedom, and justice in everyday life. This journey starts with educating girls in developing nations.

Read Shariq Mohammed's [story](#).

Swahneys are reaching beyond immediate circle | 54 sec



Having a share of inheritance provides the next generation a headstart in life or a cushion against difficult times. But we should let them forge their own paths, building their dreams and self-esteem.

Read Kamini & Rajiv's [story](#).

Gratitude of the Thakars | 1 min 27 sec



Usha and Ujwal Thakar believe that much of what they have in life are good luck. They want to repay this debt to the universe through LMP, by giving back to those who weren't so lucky.

Read Usha & Ujwal's [story](#).

Rajni & Ram are doing it now | 40 sec



Any good we can do and kindness we can show, let us do it now. Let us not defer it. You only live once. This is the motto of Rajni and Ram Chadha. Read Rajni & Ram's [story](#).

Satisfying & impactful for Mohan | 39 sec



Effort alone is insufficient in social sector. It needs resources in money and kind. This mostly comes from individual giving. Read Mohan's [story](#).

Srinivasan is serving the community | 50 sec



By interacting with like-minded individuals and leveraging our learnings and experiences, we can impact millions of people. Read TV Srinivasan's [story](#).

Akshita & Chet structuring their giving | 58 sec



Believe in the power of unconditional giving and lead by example. If your giving goals are achieved, your personal and professional goals will exceed and excel. Read Akshita & Chet's [story](#).

Shridhar doing his Dharma | 1 min 46 sec



The prospect of inspiring others to participate in philanthropy is a sufficient reward to come out and publicly announce the living pledge. Read Shridhar's [story](#).

Meenakshi & Anshu are dedicated to development | 1 min 45 sec



Development sector is not well-understood by many. The people in this sector deserve more respect, care, and basic facilities so that their families also carry forward the work they do.

Gita hoping for a happy India | 42 sec



Our generation of Indians can do a lot more for charity than we currently do. Let's lend a helping hand to make our country happier and fair.
Read Gita's [story](#).

Read Meenakshi and Anshu's [story](#).

