

Dear Warren:

After I made my first billion dollars a few years ago, I set up a foundation and worked with my estate planning attorney to provide for 80% of my estate to go to that foundation. I started with absolutely nothing and I've certainly lived the American dream.

I've had the opportunity to meet and get to know a number of people who were what I would say "cursed" with very large inheritances. While some have done good things with their inheritances, many have lost all incentive to accomplish anything on their own, and as a result, have had much less fulfilling lives. I've often thought that while these folks had the disadvantage of the advantaged, I had the advantage of the disadvantaged, having to learn to take care of myself at a young age.

While you and I have been able to achieve financial success that just a generation ago would have been impossible, today too many Americans are in very difficult financial situations. We have a lot of work to do as a country to revitalize our economy, so that the opportunities I had are available to each and every American. Through our foundation, we hope to play a major role in helping to make a better America.

I got married three years ago for the first time at the age of 52 and Mei Sze and I have a one year old son. While I intend to provide him a level of security, I would never consider leaving him the vast amount of wealth that I have been fortunate to accumulate. The bulk of my estate will go to our foundation.

I didn't come forward and discuss our commitment in August because I was in the middle of a campaign for US Senate here in Florida, and it would have looked like I was trying to exploit this for political gain. I am not running for anything now, and I am delighted to join you and the others that have publicly made this "giving pledge." I am certain that your example has changed the way people the world over organize their estates and I am proud to be part of your group.

Very truly yours,

Jeff Greene