# Summer Reading for Financial Educators

### Today's presenters:

- Bev Doll, Grant County
- J. Michael Collins, UW Mαdison
- Bridget Mouchon, Green County
- Kristi Cutts, Winnebago County

### Four Books to Consider

Decisive: How to Make Better Choices in Life and Work

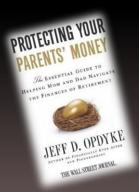
Protecting Your Parents' Money:

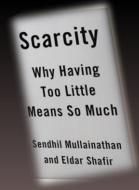
The Essential Guide to Helping Mom and Dad Navigate the Finances of Retirement

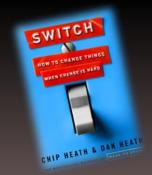
Scarcity: Why Having Too Little Means So Much

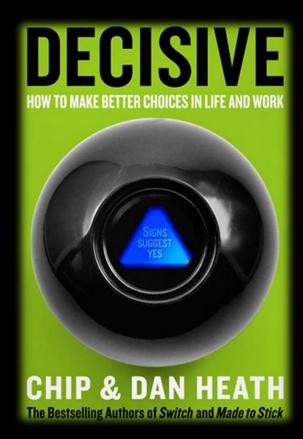
Switch: How to Change Things When Change Is Hard











Copyright 2013 299 pages Hardcover: \$15 - \$20 Also – Audio CD, paperback, kindle

#### Based on an exhaustive study of the decisionmaking literature.

 When it comes to making choices it seems our brains are flawed instruments!

#### Four villains of decision making

- Narrow framing
- The Confirmation bias
- Short-term Emotion
- Overconfidence

#### Introduction of the WRAP Program

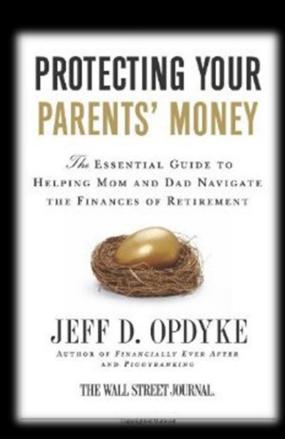
- Widen your Options
- Reality Test Your Assumptions
- Attain Distance Before Deciding
- Prepare to be Wrong

# Offers strategies and practical tools through examples and stories

#### **Offers Next Steps:**

#### http://www.heathbrothers.com/

- 1-page summary WRAP Model
- Podcasts, interview
- Decisive Workbook Downloadable
- 12 Decision Situations Downloadable



Paperback is around \$13 288 pages Published 2011

- Great resource
- Focus on the relationship: "The Talk"
- Issues tend to be basic documentation, avoid lost accounts, assets or insurance
- Payment management- can get complicated!
- Basic legal terms and documents
- Professionals want to make this seem harder - it does not need to be... step by step...
- When to take Social Security / 401k nuances
- Long term care; Health Care
- Missing: protection from fraud, ID theft,
   using technology

# Scarcity

Why Having
Too Little
Means So Much

Sendhil Mullainathan and Eldar Shafir

#### Scarcity can apply to:

- Food (being hungry, diets)
- Time (full schedules and deadlines)
- Social ties and love (loneliness)
- Financial resources (poverty)

By Sendhil Mullainathan (Economist) and Eldar Shafir (Educational Psychologist) Copyright 2013 302 pages Available in hardcover, kindle or audio \$12-\$25

# Human Behavior: "This is Your Brain on Scarcity"

#### **Attention:**

- Positive "Focus Dividend"
- Negative Tunneling and neglect

#### **Executive Control:**

Self-control and impulsivity

### Bandwidth Tax

- Distractions, loaded brain
- Cognitive capacity available for use

"The same person has fewer IQ points (13-14 points lower) when she is preoccupied by scarcity than when she is not."

### Slack

- Abundance affords "slack" = absence of trade-offs
- No slack Errors in judgment are more expensive

# "In a great variety of circumstances, poverty seems to correlate with failure."

p. 161

# Understanding People in Poverty

- "Scarcity leads us to tunnel our focus and borrow (now), and pushes us deeper into scarcity (later)."
- Parenting and scarcity
  - ➤ Air traffic controllers

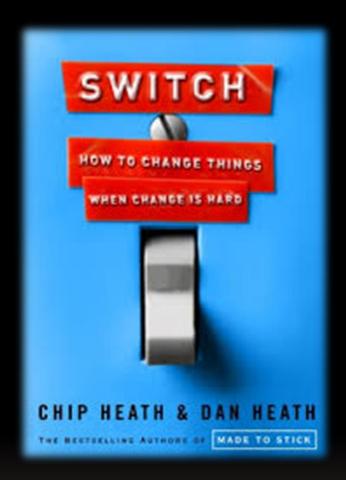
# Designing Programs to Account for Scarcity

- Fault tolerance
- Incentives and penalties need to fall within tunnel
- Skill / information-based education not effective

# Account for Scarcity continued

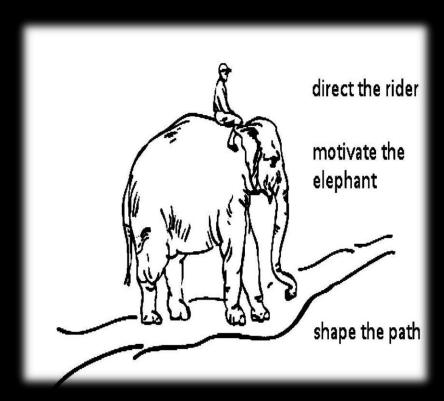
- Learner-centered, short, behavior based education, keep it simple!
- REDUCE HOOPS & JUGGLING! (when possible)
- Change the environment
- Managing abundance

# Last words: Scarcity



Paperback is around \$12 258 pages Published 2010

- "A <u>practical</u> guide to making changes in a range of domains."
- Useful for people who don't have scads of authority or resources.
- Provides a 3 part framework that can guide change in any situation.
- Tons of examples of this change framework shared throughout the book.
- The book has numerous "clinics," to allow the reader to apply the concepts presented.



"Elephant/Rider" analogy was developed by Jonathan Haidt. Haidt shares this analogy in his book The Happiness Hypothesis.

#### Direct the Rider\*

Find the bright spots Script the critical moves

#### Motivate the Elephant\*

Find the Feeling Shrink the change

#### Shape the Path\*

Build habits Rally the Herd

\*The Heath brothers suggest one additional strategy under each of these headers.

# SWITCH Resources

Visit: heathbrothers.com

- SWITCH Framework: 1 Page Reference http://heathbrothers.com/download/switchframework.pdf
- Want to check out the book before you purchase? Download Chapter 1: (free) http://heathbrothers.com/download/switchchapter1.pdf





CHIP & DAN HE The Bestselling Authors of Switch and Ma

# PROTECTING YOUR

The ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO HELPING MOM AND DAD NAVIGATE THE FINANCES OF RETIREMENT

# Scarcity

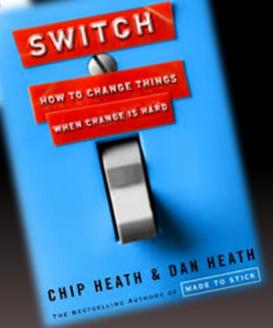
Why Having **Too Little** Means So Much

Sendhil Mullainathan and Eldar Shafir



JEFF D. OPDYKE

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



## 2014 – 15 Schedule for Lunchtime Learning

Sept 15, 2014: Family Financial Aspects of Health Care
Oct 20, 2014: Food Security and Family Finances:
Evidence from Wisconsin Schools

Nov 17, 2014: Strategies for Borrowing and Managing Student Loans

Feb 16, 2015: Retirement and Estate Planning Basics

Mar 16, 2015: Financial Caregiving and Fiduciary Roles

Apr 20, 2015: Applications of Financial Coaching

May 18, 2015: Book Reviews / Summer Reading Suggestions