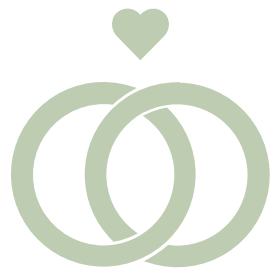


★ StarTribune

# BUSINESS

MONEY • WORK • KNOW-HOW

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2022 • SECTION D

*Together with their  
friends and family*

## THIS COUPLE

*invites you to celebrate their*

## WEDDING \* CEREMONY



\* as soon as they decide  
whether to sign a  
**prenuptial agreement.**

Learn why it can be smart  
to make a contract about  
finances before getting  
married in Minnesota.

By TODD NELSON • Special to the Star Tribune

Love is all around, but business is business.

Before walking down the aisle — well before — a business owner may want to consider asking their beloved to enter into a prenuptial agreement.

“Business owners, in particular family business owners, are really great candidates for prenups,” said attorney Lisa Spencer, immediate past president of the Minnesota chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML).

Besides business owners, people in their 40s and 50s who have been divorced and are considering a second marriage are among those entering into prenuptial agreements, said attorney M. Sue Wilson, a former president of Minnesota AAML. Those with large estates or inheritances to protect also may consider prenuptial agreements.

A prenuptial agreement is just another type of contract — referred to in state law as an antenuptial contract — that an engaged couple signs before marriage.

Spencer recommended broaching the subject of a prenuptial as soon as possible.

“In the event of death, you might have a family business and you don’t want an unintended owner all of a sudden,” she said.

See **PRENUP** on D6 ►

## Author of ‘Your Money or Your Life’ says she aimed to rescue us all

Personal-finance book tells readers to eschew consumer culture.

By HELAINE OLEN  
Washington Post

When I told Vicki Robin I wanted to visit her at her home on Whidbey Island, in Puget Sound just north of Seattle, she

told me it might be difficult: She could offer me only a fold-out sofa. She was renting out her guest rooms below market rate, she said, to people who needed housing.

I laughed. The woman who once famously lived with her companion on about \$1,000 per month didn’t want me or the Washington Post — owned by Jeff Bezos, one of the richest

people in the world — to pay for a hotel?

Before the hustle economy and the “Great Resignation,” there was Robin and her partner, Joe Dominguez.

Their book “Your Money or Your Life: 9 Steps to Transforming Your Relationship with Money and Achieving Financial Independence,” published 30 years ago this

fall, asked us to take control of our financial and work lives by eschewing mindless spending and instead concentrating on what matters, such as family, friends and hobbies.

The book is a thought-provoking mix of common-sense financial advice, philosophical exploration and scathing critique — of both consumer culture, and the way we allow

work to dominate our lives. It is an argument that, in many ways, foreshadowed our times.

Yet today, “Your Money or Your Life” — which still sells thousands of copies a year — is rarely mentioned in the context of our current labor moment. Instead, its legacy is mostly celebrated by the tech-bro-heavy, more apolitical FIRE movement — that’s

Financial Independence, Retire Early. Adherents have embraced the frugal philosophy and desire for freedom, but not the book’s greater ambitions.

Robin appreciates her younger acolytes, but is concerned that a vital piece of her message has been lost in translation. The FIRE iteration, she

See **AUTHOR** on D3 ►