# **Business Gift and Estate Equalization**

## Concept applied:

The wealth of many business owners is concentrated in illiquid assets such as businesses and real estate. Owners may desire to transfer these assets—by gift or bequest—to a child or children who desire being involved with the business or asset. In order to provide a fair benefit to the child(ren) who will not inherit the assets, the owner can name them as beneficiaries of his or her permanent life insurance policy.

#### How it works:

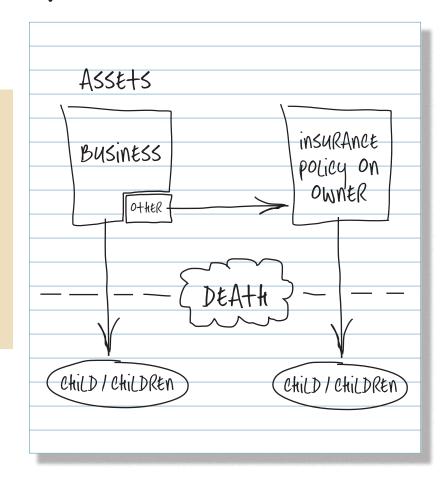
- 1. Client plans to transfer a business to a select child or children.
- 2. To provide a gift or inheritance of equal value to those who do not receive the business, client names them as beneficiaries of a life insurance policy on his or her life. For lifetime gifts of illiquid assets, client can pay for a policy on his or her life that is owned by the non-recipient child(ren).

## Why is it useful?

- Provides cash to the child(ren) and beneficiaries who will not receive the business.
- Facilitates family harmony and legacy goals by treating all children fairly.
- Helps ensure the family business is transferred to the child(ren) best-suited to operate it.

## 50 words or less

Estate and business owners can use permanent life insurance to help equalize their estate gifting by providing a generally income tax free cash benefit to children (or other heirs) not receiving the business or other illiquid assets from the estate.





This tax-related discussion reflects an understanding of generally applicable rules and was prepared to assist in the promotion or marketing of the transactions or matters addressed. It is not intended (and cannot be used by any taxpayer) for the purpose of avoiding any IRS penalties that may be imposed upon the taxpayer. New York Life Insurance Company, its agents and employees may not provide legal, tax or accounting advice. Individuals should consult their own professional advisors before implementing any planning strategies.

© 2017 New York Life Insurance Company. All rights reserved.