

RETIREMENT PLANS THAT “CLEARLY” WORK FOR YOU.



Prizant Group



BUSH LEAGUE: Being of inferior class or group of its kind: marked by a lack of sophistication or professionalism.



First used around 1906 coming from baseball slang for the small-town baseball clubs below the minor league where talent was developed. In the adjectival slang sense of "rural, provincial," which originally was simple description, not a value judgment.

With "bush" being a synonym for a rural area, non-Major League clubs in small towns were referred to as bush league teams in the early days of baseball. The term has come to be used often outside of baseball.

Playing Tom Brady in the second half when Tampa Bay is leading 35-3 (10.24.21) vs. the woeful Chicago Bears is the **EXACT DEFINITION OF "BUSH."** Keeping your starting five in the basketball game when you are "Up By 20" with 5 minutes to go in college would also be a definition. Now, I am not against the current trend in sports of celebrating every tackle, pass deflected, sack, first down, caught pass, interception, touchdown choreographed dance (Billy "White Shoes" Johnson being the original inventor), made three point shot, prolific "Space Jam", soccer/hockey goal, home run "Bat Flip" [Tim Anderson](#). Players deserve to celebrate their on the field successes no different than us commoners. With the onslaught of social media portals and the 24/7 ability to engage in "**Self Flagellation**," one cannot blame our athletes for their celebratory actions. Old timers want them to "**Act Like You Have Been There Before**" and consider these celebratory actions to be BUSH. Though I tire of every play ending with some demonstrative flailing, I have become numb to the on the field/court/ice shenanigans. So, let them eat cake!

However, I do have a "bone to pick" with my fellow connections on the supposed business based LinkedIn platform. Marketing oneself or one's business expertise or company's product/service or personal/entity certificate/award recognition is part of the game of branding. Recruiting new talent, announcement of a new/completed project, securing a promising contract, or expansion of said's business empire are all within the realms of appropriate postings. The postings that "frost my ass" are about your family successes/tragedies. your office pet, God, Jesus, misogynistic comments, practically naked pictures of young women, Trump and any of his demented worshippers, lunatic right wing conspiracy theories, Uncle Joe/Barack or

past/present politicians, personal freedom in regards to masks/vaccine mandates (how about an iron lung instead?) media "Talking Heads," cancer survivors (a horrible disease but keep it to the other social media sites), politics, charities, business moguls who evidently have reached Divine Status, vacations, Ivermectin, Hydroxychloroquine, injecting liquid bleach weight loss, company/personal outings, supposed "heroes" or more exactly "American Heroes" (like heroes are specifically American!), amazing athletic feats by the connection or other athlete, and worst of all "Pithy Sayings" or even worst your personal "Words to Live By" or "Things That I Have Learned Are Totally Irrelevant To Any Breathing Human Being But You"

Recently, somebody posted a survey "Who Would Be Best At Preventing An Invasion?" Choices: Trump or Biden. Seriously! As much as you tried to ignore this flotsam, it just keeps vomiting all over the LinkedIn pages!



Time to move on to more serious issues. When a college or university has a 501(c) IRS designation [501\(c\)](#). And though I could spend days railing against the tax avoidance of political parties and major religious organizations and the list goes on and on; we will focus on our esteemed institutions of higher learning. As college education costs continue to creep higher, the university endowments assets have exploded to the upside. The old traditional methods of investing (stocks, bonds, cash) and given way to all sorts of esoteric and profitable ventures. If their financial success meant a reduction in costs for your matriculating student that would be great, but alas that is **NOT** the case.

High grades for college endowments

University endowment managers, long criticized for the fees they pay out to private equity firms and hedge funds, have something to show for it: eye-

popping returns. Yesterday, M.I.T. reported that its endowment had gained 56 percent in its most recent fiscal year, which ended in June. Yale also published its latest returns yesterday, with its endowment up 40 percent over the same period, its third-highest annual return since 1970. Dartmouth posted a return of nearly 47 percent. Duke reported a 56 percent return.

Harvard, which runs the biggest endowment (worth \$53 billion), said yesterday that its fiscal-year return lagged many of its rivals, rising a mere 34 percent. Harvard's endowment manager said this "tremendous" return nonetheless reflected "the opportunity cost of taking lower risk" than many of the school's peers.

A big reason for the gains is investments with private equity firms, which in some years have received more in fees than endowments have paid out in tuition help. Harvard's private equity investments, worth a third of its total portfolio, returned 77 percent in its latest fiscal year. Venture capital funds are also recording huge returns: The University of North Carolina logged a 142 percent return from that portion of its \$10 billion endowment.

Are these returns worth the risk? Many endowments, like Harvard's, have increased their allocations to private equity, venture capital and hedge funds in recent years, saying that this provides crucial diversification from broader stock and bond market trends. These "alternative" investments can result in outside returns, subject to hefty fees, but can be less predictable than more conservative choices. The S&P 500 was up about 40 percent in the year to June, putting endowments' returns in perspective. Even with U.N.C.'s venture capital gains, its total endowment was up 42 percent. Yale's fund had nearly 40 percent of its portfolio in private equity funds, and matched the return of a diversified index fund.

High returns also complicate the debate about big endowments' tax status. One of the few tax increases that President Donald Trump pushed through was a 1.4 percent levy on the largest university endowments' investment income. Facing lobbying by the affected institutions, Democrats have discussed reducing the tax as part of the spending bills slowly working their way through Congress. The bumper returns that many schools just reported could make that harder to justify.

[Endowments](#)

Uncle Sugar is running a deficit of \$26 trillion and these massive (mostly private) college endowments are 501(c) which is a tax-favored status. Then, you add on all the owned real estate (campus, athletic arenas, housing, commercial/retail, farms, forests, orange/avocado/almond groves, art, collectibles, farmland,

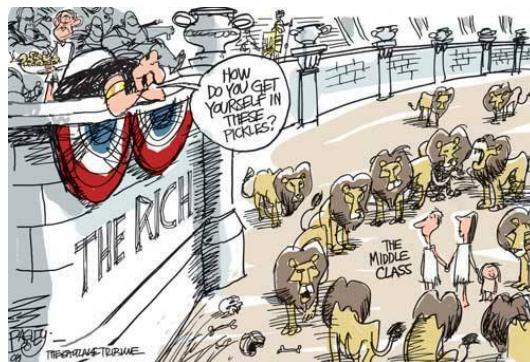
forests) and you are talking **MAJOR ASSETS THAT HAVE NEVER BEEN TAXED.**

In Fiscal Year 2020 (6.30), the investable assets of all the college endowments in the U.S. totaled: **\$\$\$637.7 Billion FY 2020**

My alma mater, Northwestern [Northwestern](#) has an investment portfolio worth \$11. BILLION (2020) and the annual cost to attend is:

The annual list price to attend Northwestern University on a full time basis for 2018/2019 is \$78,654 for all students regardless of their residency. This fee is comprised of \$56,232 for tuition, \$17,019 room and board, \$1,638 for books and supplies and \$459 for other fees. [NU Costs](#)

BTW, except for families earning less than \$50,000 or athletic scholarships, to my knowledge, there is no university financial assistance offered. Either these schools start covering a major portion of tuition, room/board, books, tablets/computers for those families earning less than \$150,000 or let the IRS loose on them with the approval of Congress.



I feel much better after venting about the ill usage of LinkedIn and the joke of college endowments being untouchable tax-wise. Recently, I saw an article in The Investment News [Middle Class](#) concerning the financial plight of the middle class in America. Quite simply, as my erstwhile father used to say

"They Don't Have A Pot To Piss In."

Quintile Definition Median Net Worth

Bottom 20% Impoverished \$4,900

Next 20% Lower-Middle Class \$29,760

Middle 20% Middle Class \$86,000

Next 20% Upper-Middle Class \$161,900

Top 20% Wealthy \$479,700

If your net worth is between \$29,760 and \$161,900, you are in the middle class

[Net Worth](#)

The moral to the story is that though extremely difficult to make ends meet from paycheck to paycheck, Americans need to come to the realization that Qualified Defined Contribution Retirement Plans (401(k)/403(b)/457) can greatly assist in covering living expenses in retirement. Gone our the traditional pension plans (i.e. you work someplace for 20-30 years and you get a monthly check until you die with an annual percent increase of around 3% and when you croak; your spouse receives 50% of that amount until their demise). And you wonder why we have articles about Middle Class facing "retirement insecurity?" [Insecurity](#)

We, at [The Prizant Group](#), have tried through the years to present the hard, cold facts about the necessity to have money in retirement. We have spoken to thousands of employees, written voluminous tomes about the subject, and still we meet massive resistance. Thus, remembering the adage "**One Picture Is Worth A Thousand Words**" (or in this case charts!). We implore you to gaze and digest the charts below. (2021: \$19,500 plus \$6,500 if you are 50 years or older in 2021).

Happy Thanksgiving to one and all.

Finally, check out some of these classic touchdown dances [TD Dances](#)

[Sanford Prizant \(President\) The Prizant Group, Ltd.](#)
[sanford@prizantgroup.com/847-208-7618](mailto:sanford@prizantgroup.com)
www.prizantgroup.com/@prizantgroup

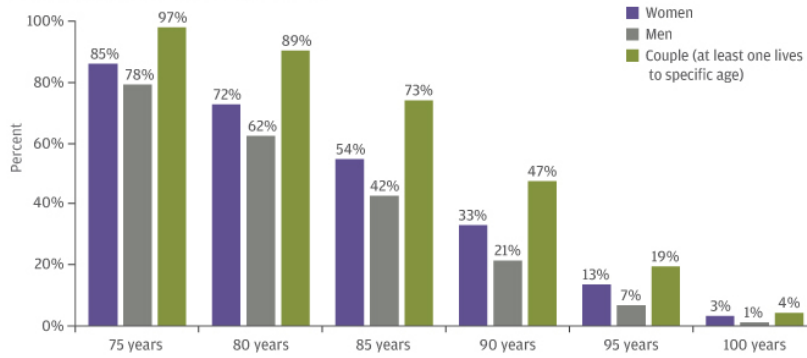
[Call, Email, Twitter, LinkedIn, Carrier Pigeon, Smoke Signals, Naval Flags](#)

Advisory services offered through Capital Asset Advisory Services, LLC. A Registered Investment Advisor.

Nothing contained herein is to be considered a solicitation, research material, an investment recommendation or advice of any kind.

[16 Scary Facts](#)

If you're 65 today, the probability of living to a specific age
EXHIBIT 1: LIFE EXPECTANCY PROBABILITIES



Source: Social Security Administration and J.P. Morgan Asset Management; data as of December 31, 2014.

Your contribution rate: a little extra can help make a big difference

How much you contribute to your retirement plan today can make a big difference in how much you have when you're ready to retire. Just increasing your contribution rate from 4% to 6% could add over \$101,000 to your nest egg over 30 years, assuming a \$50,000 salary.



Source: ChartSource, Wealth Management Systems Inc. This example is hypothetical and does not represent the performance of a particular investment. Your results will vary. Actual investing includes fees and other expenses that may result in lower returns than this hypothetical example.



©2021 The Prizant Group, Ltd. | 826 Rosemary Terrace, Deerfield, IL 60015

[Web Version](#)

[Preferences](#)

[Forward](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

Powered by **Mad Mimi®**
 A GoDaddy® company