

Retirement Planning: Why, When and How? (8)

In rounding up our series on retirement planning with the next three editions starting now, I would like to use today's essay to put into practice what I often preach and a usual practice in our consulting firm – review and application. Having devoted this page to retirement planning in the last seven editions spanning close to eleven weeks, I would like to evoke the *Law of Review and Application* – it is the seventh law of effective training or teaching. Courtesy of the Foursquare Workers-in-Training manual, the law of review and application says that the test and proof of teaching done must be the reviewing, rethinking, re-knowing, reproducing and *applying the material that has been taught*. Arguably, this column has not been a teaching avenue per se, but it is difficult to separate me from my calling as a trainer hence this approach. This law makes it mandatory in my training profession for me to go over lessons taught, clarify, ensuring that learning has taken place, and then encouraging my listeners, readers, students, audience as practically as possible to apply their learning.

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PEOPLE MATTERS with



Olusegun Mojeed,
FCIPM,
08022222459 (sms only please)
bezconsultrw@yahoo.co.uk

to sharpen the Saw makes things happen. It is renewing and it is refreshing. It is all about preserving and enhancing the greatest asset you have and that is YOU. This renewal is four-dimensional – at the physical, the scripture says *bodily exercise profits little*, please take the little because it goes a long way. A certain dose of physical exercise is good for all of us as we advance in age. The spiritual dimension is foundational, feed your spirit and put God first always living a life of integrity. You can't be too busy not to sharpen your Saw mentally. Find time to read good quality materials, develop yourself constantly even if it is self development, keep yourself employable,

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My motivation for falling in love with this law and ensuring we practise it in all our programmes is my conviction that *if the learner has not learned, the teacher has not taught*. This personal philosophy pushes me to aim for learning effectiveness always and it is not different even as I write this column week in week out. I desire that you, my esteemed readers would get value for the resources – time, money, etc you spend reading me by picking one or two things you can immediately apply to your life. In this spirit therefore, I would like to recap – in these past ten weeks or so we have discussed the following under this subject matter, in case you missed any of the previous editions, Christmas has come just early for you – perspectives on retirement in which we encouraged you to have the mindset that retirement will surely come. It is as sure as taxes and death. How do you see it – a new beginning or a death sentence? We insisted that your responses to these questions would go a long way in determining the way you would live your retirement life. We have also discussed how we transit the various life phases laying the foundation, planning and preparing for the life-after-work. We have also encouraged that it is never too late to prepare or better still, start preparing early. I have also warned that failure to plan would lead to a litany of worries and fears – worry about your money, fear of loss of status and identity, worry about what to do with your ‘excess’ time, fear of missing the social interaction the workplace provides, etc. I have also counselled in the past few weeks, although not in this exact narration, that self renewal or what the late **Stephen R. Covey** called *Sharpening the Saw* is an essential ingredient for a peaceful and enjoyable retirement life. *Sharpening the Saw* is the 7th habit in Covey’s 1989 classic, the *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. Taking time

be a professional and keep the brand YOU alive. I just came out of a meeting where a senior of mine, **Deacon Deji Olubiyi** said a lot of people are not just unemployed but they are unemployable. I concur. It is self branding or you remain a permanent member of the labour market, jobless! The last dimension of sharpening the Saw is your social and emotional being. This is the one you do in the course of your normal day interactions honing your interpersonal skills and keeping your friendship in constant repairs.



We have also said there is a lot you can do to earn income post retirement. The decision is yours to know which area you want to invest your resources. Please seek counsel in appropriate places. I plan to write briefly next week on post retirement interest mapping. This is no rocket science. I’ll break it down next week. To be continued... Till then, enjoy.

