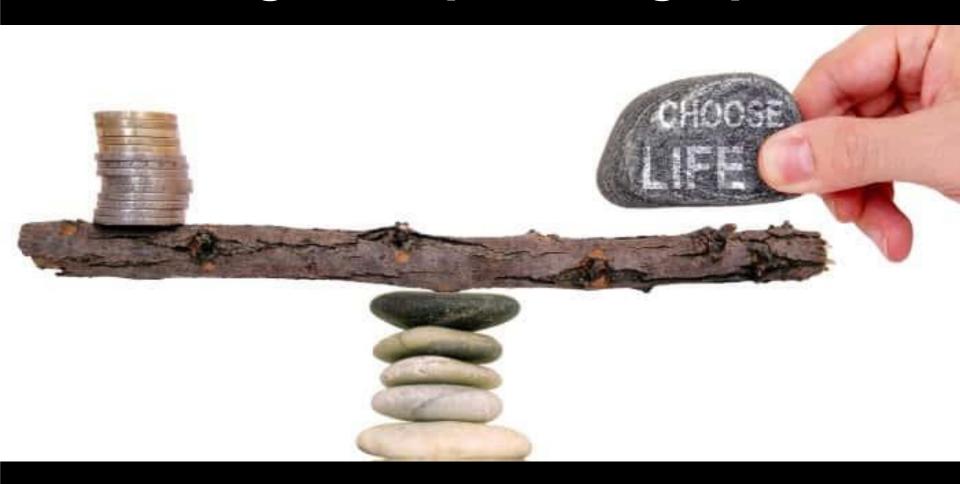
## Breaking the Spending Spell



How to Uncover Hidden Influences for Wiser Financial Choices

Simon Russell

## What I won't suggest ...





Make a budget



Pay off your credit cards



Save more for retirement



Extra money won't help



## What I will suggest ...

Tips & traps when optimising wellbeing per dollar

Consider the composition of spending

Consider the timing of spending

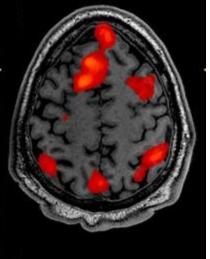
## Your future self is like a stranger





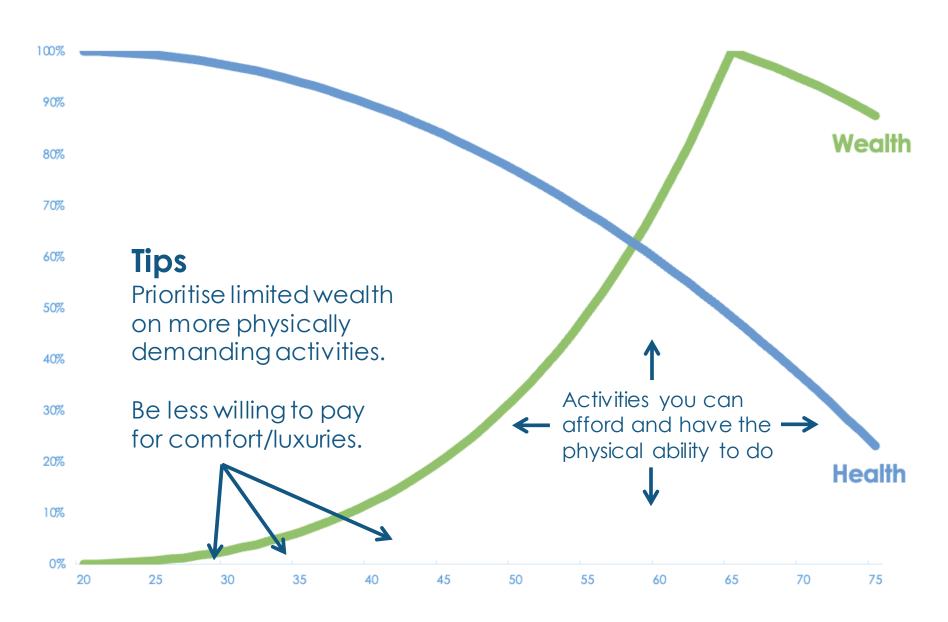
#### **Tips**

- 1. Recognise that this is a future version of you
- 2. Make the future more tangible



#### Health & wealth





#### Would you prefer:



A. A massage on a massage chair for 180 seconds?

B. A massage on a massage chair for 80 seconds, followed by a 20 second break, followed by a further 80 seconds?





# Tip: Maximise happiness by allowing for habituation

 Several shorter breaks versus a long holiday?

 Working part time rather than transition from fulltime work straight into retirement?

 Prioritise experiences (particularly with friends/family) over possessions?

 Actively pay attention to good things.  Don't wait for pay rise/promotion to be happy.





You are thinking of buying a new TV. car Your preferred model is available at your local retailer for \$900 (pickup only). \$45,500

Alternatively, you could drive to another store where you can buy the same model (with the same warranty, etc) for \$45,300 \$700. It would take you 30 minutes extra to drive each way to pick up the TV from this store.

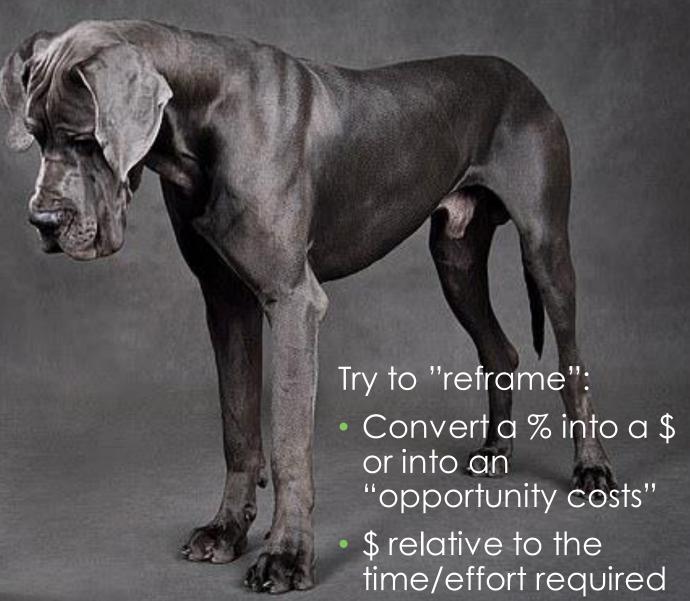
Would you save the \$200?

## Tip: Find saving in psychological blind-spots

Amounts that seem small relative to something big

- Especially %.
- Especially if little or no effort is required to pay.







## Recap ...

Tips & traps when optimising wellbeing per dollar

Consider the composition of spending

Consider the timing of spending

