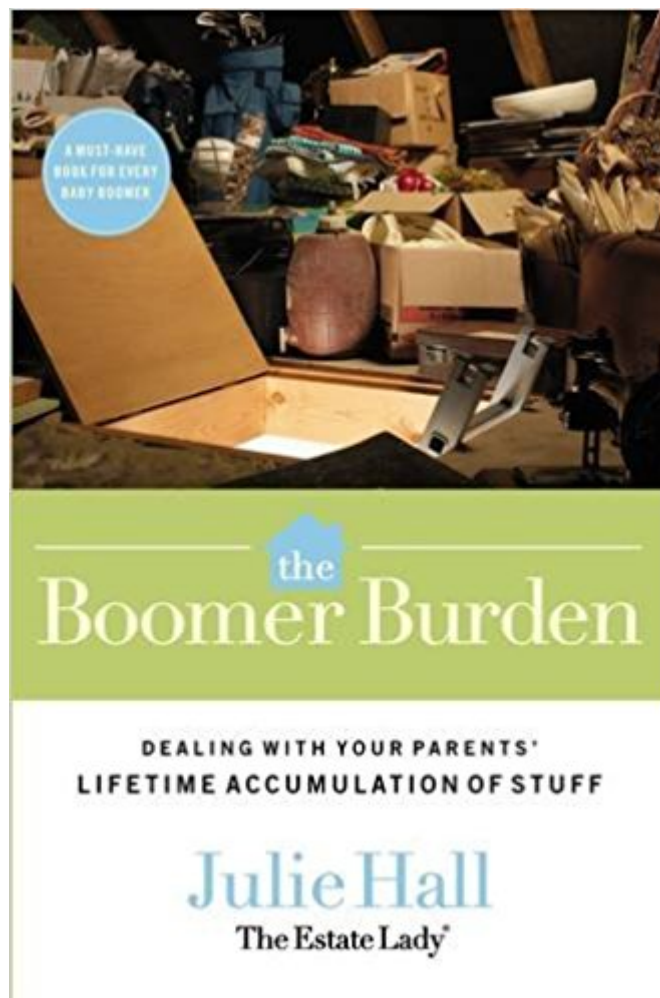




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# The Boomer Burden: Dealing With Your Parents' Lifetime Accumulation Of Stuff



## Synopsis

A practical guide to advise Baby Boomers how to deal with the daunting task of facing a parents' eventual passing as it relates to residential contents, heirlooms, and the often difficult family interactions and feuds that accompany them. With fascinating stories and comprehensive checklists, professional estate liquidator Julie Hall walks Baby Boomers through the often painful challenge of dividing the wealth and property of their parents' lifetime accumulation of stuff. From preparation while the parent is still living through compassionately helping them empty the family home, *The Estate Lady*® gives invaluable tips on negotiating the inevitable disputes, avoiding exploitation from scam artists, and eventually closing the chapter of their lives in a way that preserves relationships and maximizes value of assets.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Julie Hall, known as *The Estate Lady*®, is a professional estate contents expert and certified personal property appraiser who specializes in estate liquidation. With more than seventeen years experience with families from the southeastern United States, Julie has successfully assisted thousands of individuals in the daunting and often painful process of managing their deceased parents' affairs. In addition to her hands-on experience, she is a speaker to civic groups, retirement communities, churches, and professional organizations. She has also written a monthly column "Ask the Estate Lady®." Julie resides in Charlotte with her husband and daughter.

Book gets 2 stars because it does give some very good and accurate information about the whole

process. But it is redundant about those points. And leaves out or minimizes some Really Important points. For instance- get your parents (as well as yourself!) to write their wishes while they are alive is emphasized over and over and over). While the importance and functionality of a revocable trust is mentioned only briefly. If the estate is over a certain amount of \$ (I forget the exact figure- I think it's 100k, which is most people with a home), this is the document you need along with the will. It will save you tons of time, energy, and frustration, as well huge attorney fees, and taxes. Look into it. I can't emphasize enough how much grief I was able to avoid because of that document. The many scenarios mentioned in her book were a reminder of how fortunate we were that my parents did that. The book doesn't adequately address the thing that makes it Really Hard to get rid of the stuff- which is the emotional aspect of Throwing something out that was precious to your mother or father. Stuff that really isn't valuable to anyone else, it'd be ok to Give it to someone who would value it....but how can you throw away your dad's high school scrapbook? Pictures of ancestors, grandpa's diploma, similar things? I don't know and I haven't yet found someone to tell me. She tells us how to physically clear the house out in a week. But really, most of us can figure that part out. Many of us can even do that. (Auto pilot, I guess) But there are others of us who don't even Want to do that. We just aren't wired that way.....and we find it next to impossible. I was hoping the book would better address that sort of issue. On the positive side, the author seems to be a woman of integrity, and I would love to have someone like her if I was to hire an "estate lady", as she calls it.

This is a must-have for anyone who has parents, kids, or a houseful of stuff. Basically, everybody. She covers so many years of life - preparing to take care of elderly parents, managing their estate after they're gone, getting your own affairs in order. I loaned this to some family members, bought extra copies for others, and recommended to many friends. It's that good.

I read several books on downsizing you parents estate (or starting on your own collections) this book gave the best info of the 4 books I bought. It is helpful to see why we hold on to these things and how we can learn to let go when it becomes more than we want to handle.

Has a ton of helpful information in an easy to search format. A must if you have aging parent's and siblings too!

This book would have been a great help to me 11 years ago. My parents, in their 80's lived in my childhood home for 60 years. They were world travelers, collectors and as products of the Great

Depression, hoarders. We went through everything, some items went to a future garage sale, some were split amongst us siblings and grandchildren, and a lot went into a large dumpster. Everything stored in the garage, up on the rafters, in cardboard boxes, was, as the author stated, ruined. We did not have a system of going through the house, none at all, Dividing equally among the siblings is another topic that is so necessary to know, we did not do so well. What the author says about keeping the daughter-in-law out of the planning was right on. When my sister-in-law started asking for things, everything changed, for the worse. I am now making plans for my own estate, as in getting rid of excess, and having papers in order. This book was a huge help to me. I want to avoid some of the difficult situations that I went through settling my parent's estate. If my husband was not an attorney, I don't know how I would have managed the mess, property and financial. Money was there to pay for everything, but not always easy to get to.

I am almost 88 and believe I am a pretty savvy guy, especially when it comes to "Lifetime Accumulation". Actually, I have my accumulation, which is vast, in real good control and nicely organized. But.....I still read this book from cover to cover, asked my Wife to read it.....and then passed it on to our daughter who is our executor. It is all excellent advice and every parent and child should read it before age 60. It will save you many days, or months, of heartache and struggle if you pay attention and "get it done".

JULIE HALL covers EVERY Aspect of Both Down-sizing and Dividing Up the Parental Home with a Light Touch. I've recommended this Book to MANY friends - both Elderly and Mid-50s who are coping with Lifestyle Changes. Her years of guiding families works because she has SOLID Data and appropriate methods to avoid being swindled by cagey "appraisers". Well worth the investment.

This book is more about preparing for the eventuality than dealing with it after the death. There is about 60% of the material dedicated to talking to your parents while they are alive and encouraging them to deal with the problems of accumulation. All good information, but not what I needed.

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