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Among his other engagements, Russ is a manager of noncash research for [Charitable Solutions, LLC](#), a planned gift risk management consulting firm headed by Bryan Clontz. About three years ago, he launched a newsletter, [the Jack Straw Fortnightly](#), analyzing current developments in the law -- both tax and nontax -- concerning the transfer of private wealth in this country.

Russ has a law degree from St. Louis University and a master's degree in Taxation Law from Washington University in St. Louis. His undergraduate degree in English Literature is from Indiana University, Bloomington, and he has a master's degree in English from the University of Chicago.