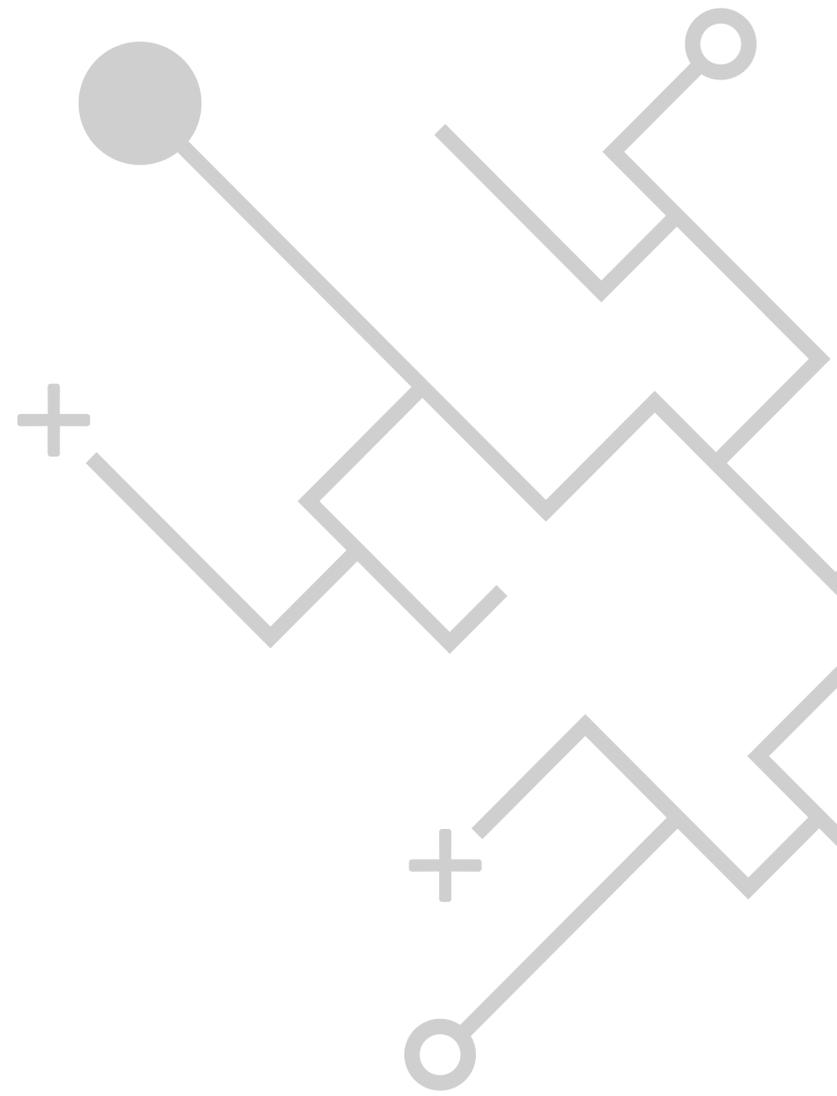


Decision *by* Design



Case Study:

How Casey Used Decision by Design to Assess a Cross-country Move

fs



Casey Grisez, an Ohio native, had a big decision on his hands. **Should his family leave the comfort of their home in Columbus for a job opportunity in Washington D.C.?**

The move would mean living farther from family and friends. Casey even joked that if they moved to a smaller place in Washington D.C., he wouldn't know what to do with his arsenal of yard tools. Casey and his wife went back and forth: What was best for their careers? Would their twin boys, only toddlers, benefit from growing up in a more urban and diverse environment? Or was staying in a familiar city closer to family a better choice?

These kinds of decisions are nuanced and complex, which is why they keep us up at night. Casey, who has always been interested in self-improvement and is a long-time follower of Shane Parrish, decided to take Decision by Design to help give him the tools to make the right decision for himself and his family.

Challenge

A BIG MOVE WAS EXCITING, BUT IT MEANT LEAVING FAMILY BEHIND.

Casey has spent his career working in finance and has been enjoying a stable job at an accounting and consulting firm for the last five years. But some friends in Washington D.C. have long been encouraging him to join their wealth management firm.

“I’ve known these people for roughly 10 years, and every time I visit D.C. they ask me when I’m moving there. The timing has never been right, but the opportunity has recently started to become more real. I started to think this was the right time to make the move.”

In this new role, he’d not only take on the finance work he already knows but he’d also get to take an operational leadership role within the company.

D.C. had other draws for Casey. He enjoys traveling and knows that D.C.’s international airports would make it substantially easier to explore more destinations. Plus, as his twin boys grow up, he wants them to be exposed to as

much as possible. D.C.’s diversity offers that opportunity.

Thing is, most of Casey’s family is in Ohio. That’s worth a lot, as Casey’s twins are still very young. To complicate matters, a close family member was diagnosed with cancer. Although the prognosis looks good, Casey didn’t want to leave his loved one in a time of need.

“We own our house in Columbus, and it’s a great house in a great school district. Life is easy. The idea of uprooting the roots we put down in this house and in this neighborhood makes the choice even harder.”

Casey and his wife also own their home in Ohio, which is in a great neighborhood. Plus, Casey’s wife has a successful career as well and will need to find the right position in D.C.

“We own our house in Columbus, and it’s a great house in a great school district. Life is easy. The idea of uprooting the

roots we put down in this house and in this neighborhood makes the choice even harder.”

The two saw the upsides of going and staying, which is why Casey felt it prudent to examine the choice from all angles. They needed to make the right decision.

Solution

DECISION BY DESIGN GAVE CASEY A DECISION-MAKING FRAMEWORK.

Casey floated the possibility of a move to friends and family, greatly benefiting from different perspectives. But he needed a framework to lay out the complexities of the decision. Enter Decision by Design.

The Decision by Design course was already on Casey’s radar, but the possibility of a move gave him the opportunity to put the course’s lessons into action. He signed up and took the course over a 12-week period, taking extensive notes as he continued to mull over whether he and his family should move.

Casey liked that Decision by Design didn’t emphasize any one decision over another, but instead provided a foundation for how to think about these decisions. Not only did it help him come up with his own framework for making large-scale decisions, such as a possible

“Decision by Design focuses not only on the decision you make but how you think about it. What were your inputs? What are the things you should be considering? What questions can you answer on the personal side? How about professionally?”

cross-country move, but it also helped him understand that some of the smaller life decisions are not as important, and should be made quickly.

Results

CASEY FEELS CONFIDENT THAT HIS DECISION WILL BE THE RIGHT ONE.

After about a year of working together with his wife to assess what the family should do, Casey is on the eve of making a decision. When we last talked to him, he was

planning on giving his notice in Columbus and making the move to D.C.

But Casey doesn't think the result of the move is as important as what he learned about the decision-making process. "Decision by Design puts context and frameworks around decisions. It won't tell you how exactly to make a decision or what decision to make, but it will help you determine what matters and what doesn't as you make your choice," he said.

After taking Decision by Design, Casey feels he will be 100% confident in whatever he decides to do. Because he's been so deliberate about making the decision, he knows he won't be riddled with second-guessing. The choice to move will not have been made randomly or on a whim. It will have been carefully considered.

Here are a few of the life-long lessons that Casey learned from Decision by Design:

Stay big picture - "A year ago, I would've gotten hung up on a small decision. For example, I would've hemmed and hawed over what to do with our lawnmower, shovels, and other yard equipment," said Casey. "But after taking the course, I can make a decision like that incredibly quickly. Now, it's like 'we'll just get rid of the shovels.' The shovels are not an important factor in this large scale decision."

Re-visit the material when decisions need to be made - When Casey first took Decision by Design, he told Shane he wanted lifetime access. After all, Casey knows he will revisit the material each time a major life decision needs to be made. "When I make a decision twenty years from now, I want to be able to take the course again and reference the notes I made this time around," he said. "I won't be the same person in many years, and I'm sure a new perspective will change the way I see the material."

Life is long— decide accordingly - As Casey made the decision, he recognized that moving to D.C. was not irreversible. If things didn't pan out the way he had hoped in the first couple of years, then he could always move back to Columbus or another destination. In the scheme of his long life, a move to D.C. is something he and his wife want to try.

Finally, Casey believes that anyone– no matter their background– will benefit from Decision by Design. After all, life is riddled with decisions large and small. If we want to live deliberately,

we need to get better at decision-making.

“Decision by Design is a super dense course packed with valuable information. I truly don’t think it’s possible to go through this course and not have it be worthwhile. Even if you don’t have a big life decision, even if your life is not complicated by family or big moves, you’ll get value out of this course.”

Decision

by **Design**

