

Robert Shapiro is the founder of Social Tees, a fundraising company that produces tee shirts with messages about various social issues to help schools, churches, human rights organizations and many other groups to raise money. Money raised is donated to a variety of causes including: Amnesty International, AIDS research and animal rights. Social Tees also sells its full line of shirts to retail stores and organizations nationwide. Other clients include the Nation Organization of Women, the United Nations, Planned Parenthood, and MTV.

In addition to helping groups raise money for their own causes, the proceeds from Social Tees custom screen printing department are being used to finance another of Mr. Shapiro's projects: the production of an educational program entitled "Invisible Eden," which teaches children and adults that they can "live well without being rich or famous." This very uplifting program is based on advantageous consuming that doesn't exploit people or the environment. Social Tees' profits also support an on-site grass-roots animal rescue organization that rehabilitates and places over 1500 animals each year before they are put to sleep at the pound. In addition to hundreds of dogs and cats, the variety of exotic animals that he rescues, have been featured on National Geographic, Animal Planet, The Discovery Channel as well as on "To Tell the Truth." He also runs an endangered species program.

Robert's accomplishments include writing a textbook covering all 6000 known species of reptiles, which he completed at the age of 19; illustrating a book of Faberge Eggs for Forbes Magazine (Doubleday) while attending Parson's School of Design. He was also a nationally ranked handball player. Mr. Shapiro also teaches tennis for free and has a particular passion for long distance bicycle riding and in-line skating.

Robert currently holds U.S. patent #5,483,956 (New York Times, March 1996) for a fire safety device on which he is currently being advised by a team at Texas A&M that specializes in testing and developing such life saving products. He is also developing a "Modular Atrophy Prevention Machine" for rehabilitating bed-ridden hospital patients and another device that will prevent drivers from falling asleep at the wheel.

In addition to these projects, Robert has just completed a children's book about sea turtles including an effective way to save their lives. He is a "traveling science teacher" for the board of education, giving talks to children about animals and their proper care. He has also written a compilation of aphorisms pertaining to life and humanity called "United Notions." Also mentionable is a calendar called "365 Things You *Don't* Have to do in Order to Save the Earth," which uses excerpts from his book, "Invisible Eden."

He never studied, zoology, but became an expert in herpetology, never studied business, but founded a nationwide company, didn't play sports when he was a youngster, but became a national champion, didn't take tennis lessons, but teaches tennis, did in fact study art, but gave it up long ago so that he could write more. In November 2005, Robert was the "New Yorker of the Week on NY1 television, which featured his animal rescue operation. Since then he was awarded a grant and has completely refurbished his adoption room, and has doubled his rescue effort over the past year.