

## Last Will and Testaments and Living Wills

## Wills, Living Wills, and the Significance of Documentation

As we prepare to enter into the next decade in 2020, it is crucial to start thinking about not just your own future but the future of your loved ones. With the unexpectedness of life, it is important to have a Last Will and Testament in place to ensure the security of your family in the event of both an expected or unexpected loss. It is also important to secure a Living Will, or advanced medical directive, in the event that you become too ill to make health-related decisions for yourself. However, many still have neither of these significant documents properly in place nor do they understand the difference between a Last Will and Testament and Living Will.

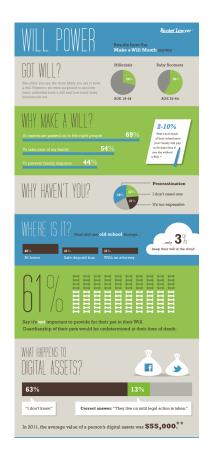


## Last Will and Testament versus Living Will

A Living Will, also known as an advanced medical directive, is a legal document which provides instructions regarding the medical care a person wishes to receive in the event that they become incapacitated or seriously ill and cannot communicate their wishes themselves. Living Wills often include details such as whether the patient would like any life-sustaining treatments or feeding or breathing tubes to be used. In this document, an attorney-in-fact is named as a representative of the interests of the living will's owner. People typically create a Living Will to make clear to their loved ones and caretakers what their wishes would be in the event that they become too ill to make decisions on their own, ensuring peace of mind in case of an emergency.

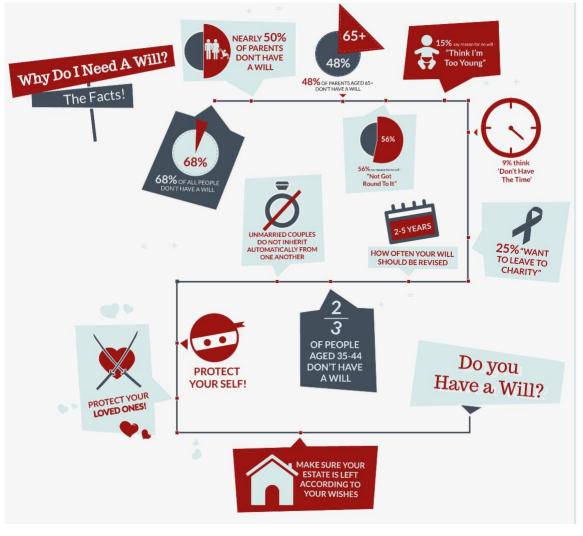
A Last Will and Testament, or just a Will, however, is a legal document which provides instructions regarding what the one would like to have happen to their assets after their death. In addition to passing down finances, property, and other important assets, Wills can also provide instructions about who will become the legal guardian to one's minor children. This makes it extremely important for someone with children under the age of 18 to have a Will.

You may be wondering if a Last Will and Testament or a Living Will is right for you. The answer is easy- every adult should have both in place. They both provide peace of mind, knowing that you will be taken care of in your chosen manner in the



event of a health emergency and that your loved ones will be taken care of in the event of your passing.

The average age of someone creating a Will is 47 years old, but you are never too young or too old to create one! Our team at the Law Office of Sital J. Shah, Esq. is here to help with any questions you may have regarding this subject and is happy to guide you in creating and legally putting these documents into place. The peace of mind that having a Living Will and Last Will and Testament in place gives you and your family is priceless!











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