

## Are You Exercising Your *Will Power*?

Most people just never get around to making a will because they don't *exercise their will power*. *Will power* is what motivates you to ignore all the reasons that you could come up with not to write a will. And it can seem like there are plenty of good reasons.



*Will power* assures you that your support of the organizations that have meant the most to you can be carried forward for generations to come. A charitable bequest builds MAP International's financial strength and helps ensure that we'll be able to keep doing the work that you have valued. We're ready to work with you to create a meaningful gift that satisfies you and supports our mission. We're here to help.



1-800-225-8550  
Plannedgiving@map.org  
www.map.org/plannedgiving  
4700 Glynco Parkway  
Brunswick, GA 31525-6800



Forbes

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## Bequests

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- **Let's start with the most unsettling issue. Talking about a will and what you want to do with your assets means coming face-to-face with mortality.** Do you really want to get to work on a project that makes you consider *that*? Why not ignore the whole thing — maybe it will go away! With some *will power*, though, you can start doing what needs to be done.
- **Next: we know that a will is a legal document that should be written by an attorney who specializes in estate planning.** Okay, attorneys make some of us uneasy. Who's this know-it-all poking his nose into your family and finances? How do you know he's any good, anyway? Plus, after your meeting, he sent you out with *homework* — information to gather, documents to assemble, decisions to make. Can't you just write something on the back of an envelope and be done with it?



*Will power* calms you down. It tells you that you can seek recommendations and meet informally with several lawyers until you find the one you're comfortable working with. It assures you that the lawyer is a trained professional acting on *your* behalf when he or she pushes to get a complete picture of your needs and plans. And *will power* reminds you that a well-thought-out plan now will mean peace of mind for your family later.

- **What if you have an uncomfortable family situation that you'd rather not have to take into account?** Writing your will means dealing with that prickly situation, which, in turn, could mean added complexity in the disposition of your assets. You could just ignore the situation that causes you discomfort. *Will power* warns you that by not dealing with the situation now, while you're alive, you could bring a much worse burden to your family later on.



**Bottom line?** *Will power* reminds you that planning your estate isn't really for your benefit — it's for the benefit of the family, friends and organizations you will leave behind. Your will makes it easier on them, because it tells them exactly how your affairs will be settled. Without *will power*, you could leave your family grieving *and* in conflict or economic turmoil. Having a will does make a difference — we've witnessed firsthand at MAP International the peace of mind a lovingly planned will has brought to the families of our donors.

*“Since we already had a will, a quick phone call to our attorney was all it took to add a charitable gift to MAP. It makes it so easy for anyone to be a philanthropist.”*  
— Norman, Tecumseh, KS