



Survey Finds Most Americans Don't Have Wills – Are you one of them?

If you do not have a Will, you are not alone. A recent Harris Interactive survey found that 55% of all adult Americans do not have a will. Among non-white adults, the percentage is even higher: 68% of African American adults and 74% of Hispanic American adults do not have wills. So why do so many people put off making their wills? Here are the top reasons identified in the survey:

- People do not want to think about dying or becoming incapacitated.
- People do not know who to talk to about an estate plan.
- People think that they need more assets to justify having an estate plan.

Most Americans do not understand that without a will, their loved ones will typically have to undergo a lengthy and expensive probate proceeding in which the state will decide how to distribute all of their assets. That decision may not reflect an individual's actual desires and may result in less money going to their loved ones. Moreover, it is vital to name guardians for minor children; you do not want the government making that decision for you too! As I often tell my clients, you have an estate plan: it is either the one you create for yourself or the one the state creates for you.

About Tali Klapach:

Tali Klapach is a graduate of Princeton University and Yale Law School. After practicing for seven years at two top law firms in Los Angeles, Tali started her own practice in trusts and estates. Tali is committed to helping clients protect their families from unnecessary taxes, incapacity, probate, and uncertainty by providing high-quality, affordable estate planning. She makes it easy for clients to complete their estate plans by offering flat fees and flexible scheduling. To schedule a free initial consultation or to receive Tali's free monthly e-Newsletter, please visit her website at www.KlapachEstatePlans.com or call her at (310) 435-4375.

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