

Wills--The Big Myth: What You Don't Know Can Hurt Your Family

Robert M. Dunn, Joan F. Dorfman
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#7632853 in Books Rainbow Books, Inc. 2005-05Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.52 x .46 x 5.60l, .62
#File Name: 1568250916181 pages | File size: 75.Mb

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Best Guide to Outlining your WishesBy Laury BartlettThis book is very helpful. It will guide parents through preparing the best dispensation of their property and possessions when they are no longer here to advise and direct the process. Recent experience has shown how important it is to outline your wishes--especially if you want your children to continue talking to one another and loving one another as siblings after you are gone.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Necessary Read Before You Write Your WillBy Picky ReaderBefore you visit the attorney's office, CPA, insurance agent, stockbroker, or "financial friend," before you sign any documents, before you *have* to make out a will....read this book. Authors Robert M. Dunn and Joan F. Dorfman have written a terrific case for living wills, why most people don't have a living will, and why most people need one. Estate planning should not be done on a whim, something you merely check off your to-do list. Estate planning is very serious work, and this book gives excellent pointers in how to go about planning your estate and goals. It even offers check lists to help you plan.A wise car shopper wouldn't point to the first car she sees on a lot and say, "I like that one. I'll buy that one." It's the same with making out your will. Don't just walk into any attorney's office and say, "I want a will. Who do I make the check out to?"Be an informed shopper. Why? Because your will is one of the most important documents you'll ever have written up! Be wise! Know what you're getting into! Buy this book and read it several times like I did!Mr. Dunn and Ms. Dorfman use very clear, every day layman's terms and every day case scenarios to describe examples and goals...not that ugly, lawyer-like, Washingtonian double-speak that attorneys love to use on people. After all, you're buying something--you may as well know exactly what you're buying!This is an easy read--I read it in about 2 days. Then I got out my favorite highlighter and pen (for notes in margins and underlining) and read it again. It even includes appendixes, a glossary, and an index. Very user friendly for those of us who don't have JD after our names.You're making an investment if you buy this book. Don't let what happened to Terry Schiavo's family happen to you!! READ THIS BOOK!

Wills The Big Myth teaches the reader about Wills, their function and their limitations. It describes common problems that many families have faced, and, in each circumstance, a Will wasnt enough to protect family members even with the addition of life insurance. After exposing the Big Myth (that Wills and life insurance protect your family), it exposes and dispels other common myths that are associated with estate planning. It addresses how to address Living Will issues (Remember Terri Schiavo?), how to keep strangers from making decisions that affect your children after your death, the truth about Probate, estate taxes, pets, long-term care, and much more. After years of estate planning, Robert and Joan came to realize that many well intentioned but misinformed parents were protecting their families with Wills that were either worthless pieces of paper or that would accomplish considerably less than they expected. WillsThe Big Myth prepares families to intelligently discuss their Wills with a lawyer so they will end up with true protection for their families. The text of is written for the lay person and, as a result, every step has been taken to avoid legalese. WillsThe Big Myth differs from other books about Wills in that it dispels common misconceptions that impede effective estate planning. It offers a primer on the function and limitations of Wills, exposes common problems that many families have faced due to those limitations, and focuses on other common myths that are associated with estate planning. Robert Dunns philosophy about estate planning evolved through years of attending professional seminars, self-education and working with clients to design and execute their estate plans. He came to realize that many well intentioned but misinformed parents were protecting their families with Wills that were either worthless pieces of paper or that would accomplish considerably less than they expected.

From the PublisherAs the authors say, "The average couple leaves more instructions on the care of their children to their baby sitter than they give to the guardian of their children.... "The sad truth is that most parents believe that, if they die before their children are grown, a Will and life insurance will meet their children's needs." We think the book is important if for no other reason than the above two. But there are many more reasons for re-inspecting a Will. Most people spend more on their livingroom sofa than on their estate planning!From the Back CoverThe Peace of Mind You Get from Your Will Is Only an Illusion! Your family is left with the consequences, good or bad, of the planning decisions you make today. Find out: What your lawyer, CPA, insurance agent and stockbroker wont tell you Why your Will may be a worthless piece of paper What works and what doesnt Wills The Big Myth is a must read for anyone writing a new Will or updating an old one. It shatters myths and breaks with tradition. Dont let the plain English fool you. Even seasoned attorneys will learn why the traditional approach to planning with a Will deserves to be put to rest. Robert Dunn is an attorney whose law practice is devoted to preparing Wills and Trusts, and designing and implementing detailed estate plans. Joan Dorfman works with Robert as his legal assistant.About the AuthorRobert Dunn is an attorney whose law practice is devoted to preparing Wills and Trusts, and designing and implementing detailed estate plans. He graduated from the University of Virginia with a B.S. in accounting; earned a law degree from Cumberland School of Law, Samford University; and a Master of Laws in taxation from New York University Graduate School of Law. Robert worked for major accounting firms in New York City until he started his law practice in 1982, in the metropolitan Atlanta area. Robert has given estate planning seminars to insurance professionals, CPAs and the general public. He is a member of the Atlanta Estate Planning Council, Georgia and Florida Bar Associations

and the New York State Society of CPAs. Roberts philosophy about estate planning evolved through years of attending professional seminars, self-education and working with clients to design and execute their estate plans. He came to realize that many well intentioned but misinformed parents were protecting their families with Wills that were either worthless pieces of paper or that would accomplish considerably less than they expected. Although there were numerous estate planning books, the word was not getting out. His desire to fill this void provided the impetus for this book. Joan Dorfman works with Robert as his legal assistant. She earned her undergraduate degree from Cornell University, and Masters degrees from the University of Arizona and Georgia State University.