

Women and the law

How great is the power of suggestion! One of the questions I suggested from last month's article, "Do I need a will?" is the question of the month. The answer: Yes, but only if you fall into the following categories: 1. Breathing

2. Are over 14
3. Own property
4. Have children,
5. Don't have children
6. Married
7. Not married. I admit, that does cover a lot of us, doesn't it?

Since there are probably very few dead people or people under 14 reading this article, it may very well be that if you are reading this article, you need a

will. I love living in Fayetteville, Georgia. We have the best of both worlds: the small town advantages and the big city activities.

In Georgia we can get to the beach and the mountains without a plane ride. Georgia is not only a great place to live, but it is a great place to die! You're wondering what this has to do with wills? With a properly drawn will, the laws in Georgia allow the probate process, in most cases, to be extremely efficient (unlike many other states.) Do not fear probate in Georgia. DO fear your own lack of planning.

In a will, you can do many wonderful things, I mention a few:

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reach her at 120 Howard Lane, Fayetteville, Ga. 30215.

1. Name the best person to take care of your minor children;
2. Name who is the best person to handle the money you leave for the benefit of your children;
3. Allow the money to be distributed to your children over the course of time (allowing your children to "mature" into the money);
4. Name the person who will administer your estate the most efficiently;
5. Keep court costs down to a minimum;
6. Give money to your favorite chari-

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ties;

7. Possibly save thousands of dollars from going to the government in estate taxes;

8. Keep the "next" spouse from spending the money you and your husband worked for;

9. Most of all, you can choose where you want your assets to go.

(Did you know that if your spouse passes without a will, and you have children, you will not receive all his assets? You would share the assets equally with

your children, with you not taking less than one-third. I don't know about you, but my children have yet to make a payment on our house. I love them, but don't want to ask them for my house back should my husband die.)

As your mother so wisely told you, don't put off 'til tomorrow what you can do today. Women, statistics tell us that we will more than likely survive our husbands. You will be the one dealing with the lack of planning if the planning is not done. It's simple: Get a will. —*fw*

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