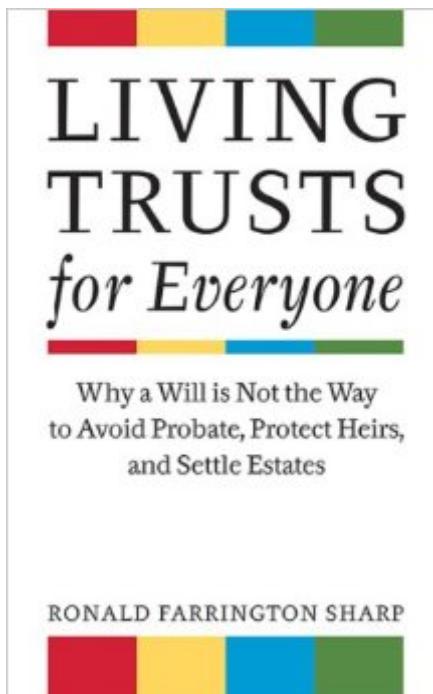


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# Living Trusts For Everyone: Why A Will Is Not The Way To Avoid Probate, Protect Heirs, And Settle Estates



## Synopsis

The misconceptions surrounding the last will and testament need to be put to rest: Wills benefit lawyers. Trusts benefit you. Period. Too often lawyers sell wills to clients only to sit back and wait to sell their probate services to their clientâ™s heirs. Modern estate planning should utilize the Living Trust as the effective, efficient, and inexpensive alternative to a will. *Living Trusts for Everyone: Why a Will is Not the Way to Avoid Probate, Protect Heirs, and Settle* explains why wills are not the best way to handle an estate and details the many advantages trusts have over wills in not only eliminating probate, but protecting your assets for your heirs. Anyone with minor children, disabled beneficiaries, blended families, or spendthrift heirs must have a trust to be sure the assets left behind are put to good use, and that your intentions are carried out. Lawyers may have vested interests in perpetuating the probate system, but this book will explain why legal services are not needed to do the clerical work in settling a trust after death. No legal jargon or confusing double-speak, just specific step-by-step instructions and sample form letters to settle a trust are included to take the mystery out of the process. This is not a do-it-yourself book and it doesnâ™t try to cram every type of trust onto its pages. *Living Trusts for Everyone* explains in specific terms what benefit a trust will have for you and gives you the tools to settle a loved oneâ™s trust with no lawyers and no expense. For those who already have a trust, there is a list of what to look for to see if your trust is any good, or if it needs to be updated. Trust seminars are examined with warnings on what to look out for in setting up your trust. Everyone who cares about what happens to their assets at death should read *Living Trusts for Everyone: Why a Will is Not the Way to Avoid Probate, Protect Heirs, and Settle*! Allworth Press, an imprint of Skyhorse Publishing, publishes a broad range of books on the visual and performing arts, with emphasis on the business of art. Our titles cover subjects such as graphic design, theater, branding, fine art, photography, interior design, writing, acting, film, how to start careers, business and legal forms, business practices, and more. While we don't aspire to publish a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are deeply committed to quality books that help creative professionals succeed and thrive. We often publish in areas overlooked by other publishers and welcome the author whose expertise can help our audience of readers.

## Book Information

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## **Customer Reviews**

"This is a book for the 95 percent of the population that has done no estate planning..."The author is an attorney and has personally prepared over 4,000 trusts and estate plans. In the first chapter he reviews the differences between a will and a trust and states "The fact is that nearly everyone would be better off with a trust than with a will. In most cases the only person who benefits from our having a will instead of a trust is your lawyer. Attorney fees for making the will and probating the estate are a lawyer's bread and butter."I highly recommend this book as it is specific yet easy to understand. A quick read will convince you of the importance of trusts or in the rare case of why you don't need one. The author has done an excellent job in giving detailed information without being dry or boring. Everything that he has written is important and no words are wasted. One very interesting facet of a trust is that the benefits are for the living and not just a method to disperse funds when someone passes away. As a reference tool the chapter headings allow you to review time after time as questions arise. My copy is now highlighted in yellow and green.Very useful reading and a must for anyone who desires to manage their finances responsibly and profitably.Carol Schultz-Weilauthor In The Trenches - Financial Survival During Times of Hardship

The book covers the basics of the revocable living trust - what it is, who needs one, why you need one. It simply defines trustees grantors and beneficiaries. The author explains probate and why you should avoid it, why a will won't do most of the time, and key situations in which a trust would be beneficial.I'd consider the book an overview, but after reading it you will know what to look for and who to ask to learn more about how to tailor one to your specific financial and personal situation.It

gave me plenty of questions to prepare me to discuss this with my attorney.

Invaluable assistance in my duties as successor trustee for my father's trust. I wish my counsel handed me this book along with the copies of the trust documents. If you have a trust, please include this book with your papers, it will help your children get started on the right foot.

I especially liked the section that dealt with what to do when someone dies and the examples of notification needed. Good explanation of some of the instruments of inheritance. Readable.

This is a basic introduction to living trusts. General concepts are explained: differences between a trust and will, funding a trust, the various types, problems, and other related subjects..The most valuable section is Appendix A. The author provides valuable sample forms: letters to creditor, Social Security Administration, life insurance, Veteran's Administration, and employer; funeral and burial arrangements; and obituary format.

The majority of the population does not have a will or Living Trust according to the author, probably because they think their assets are not sizable enough, and they see no 'urgency'. But the fact is that for any asset big or small, drawing a Living Trust is cannot be put off. The author-attorney has a written a book in plain language the difference between a will and Living Trust. Almost any basic information one needs on the subject is in this book. There are many books on the subject, but the uniqueness of this book is that it tells the facts of the aftermath-what the family must do when the trustee dies. This is invaluable information at the readers' fingertips. This is a book every family/trustee/heirs must have. The author has done a great service.

This book is excellent. It shows you why a trust is far superior to a will, and less hassle when someone dies. It also shows how to avoid some common pitfalls to make sure your assets go where they are supposed to go. You should read this book if you have a will or are considering one. You will more than likely change to a trust when you see the down side to wills.

Living Trusts for Everyone: Why a Will is Not the Way to Avoid Probate, Protect Heirs, and Settle Estates advocates trusts and explains them in clear language, maintaining that a trust is often better than a will, and less costly. From understanding different types of trusts and how to fund them to selecting an attorney and considering the costs of paperwork, this is a fine pick!

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