U.S. EDITION

Estate planning for complex family dynamics

Today, the modern family comes in many different shapes and sizes; this diversity is having an impact on family relationships and the way families interact when addressing estate planning.

Sharing details of location of Wills and Powers of Attorney with heirs.

We appointed a corporate executor	4%
Only my spouse & I are aware of location	25%
Heirs are unaware of location of documents	13%
Documents left with people other than our heirs	15%
Our heirs have copies of the original	10%
Our heirs are aware of location of documents	33%

In the United States, **4.7%** of all children under the age of 18 are stepchildren.

More than 4,165,000 children live in a home with a parent that is not their biological parent.

Arrangements made by parents or grandparents for daily living assistance in the future.

Single or only recently living together	10%
Same-sex couple	20%
Second or subsequent marriage, living together	20%
First marriage – separated or divorced, living with new partner	22%
First marriage – separated or divorced, single	26%
First marriage, living together	11%
Common law, civil union, living together	13%

40% have never discussed their estate intentions with their children

Will I leave an inheritance?

	Leaving all assets to current spouse	Leaving to current spouse & kids	Leaving equal shares to kids	Other
Single or only recently living together	12%		36%	52%
Same-sex couple	53%		18%	29%
2nd or subsequent marriage, living together	42%		33%	25%
1st marriage – separated or divorced, living with new partner	18%	35%	29%	18%
1st marriage – separated or divorced, single	2%	6%	66%	26%
First marriage, living together	19%	56%	13%	12%
Common law or civil union, living together	13%	39%	21%	27%

52% did not yet have a Will in place, and more so **56%** of those age 35-54.

Legal marital status the United States in 2016

32.2%	Never Married
52.1%	Married
9.9%	Divorced
5.8%	Widowed

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