

Step 5: Protecting Your Child's Future

It's scary to think of what might happen to your family if you pass away. With a new baby, you will have even more responsibility than before.

By buying life insurance, choosing guardians, and writing a will, you can continue taking care of your loved ones even after your life has ended.



What will I learn in this section?

- 1** Buying Life Insurance
- 2** Preparing a Will



While many people don't like to think about passing away, it's very important to plan ahead. Hope for the best, but prepare for the worst.

Buying Life Insurance

Life insurance helps ensure that if anything happens to you, there will be money available for those you leave behind. That is why the most important time in your life to be insured is when you are starting a family.

What's in it for me and my baby?



▶ Your need for life insurance changes throughout your lifetime, but when you have young children, your need is the greatest.

▶ With life insurance comes peace of mind. If anything happens to you, you want to make sure your new baby is taken care of.

▶ You should also talk to your employer to find out if your company offers any life insurance packages.

Check out this site:
www.lifeinsurancequote.com

BUYING LIFE INSURANCE

What types of life insurance are out there?

Whole Life Insurance

Whole life insurance does not expire, and it provides constant coverage for your entire life. This is a good option if you have a lot of assets, and you don't think your need for insurance will decrease as you age.⁴⁴

Term Insurance

Term insurance provides coverage for a certain period of time, and unlike whole life insurance it does expire.⁴⁵

Term insurance works for the vast majority of cases. The start-up costs are less expensive than whole life insurance, so it may be the right choice if you are looking for coverage for a specific time. For example, you may just want to be covered while your children are living with you.⁴⁶

In general, term insurance is a great deal for new parents looking for coverage only while their children are dependent.⁴⁷



Not only will you feel better about your body, but being active can also set a great example for your child! Try making it a habit to go for a family walk after dinner with your stroller every day.

**Be Active
Parents!**

BUYING LIFE INSURANCE

Prices for life insurance vary between companies, so it's very important to shop around.

What about life insurance for my child?

Because your child doesn't have any income, he or she has very little need to be insured. Try to avoid plans that have high costs; a great child insurance plan can cost as low as \$1.00 a month on top of your insurance payment. This insurance only covers funeral expenses should anything happen to your child. ⁴⁸



How much insurance do I need?

With a new family, your need for life insurance is greater than any other point in your life. While the exact amount can be different for everyone, a ball-park figure can be found by multiplying your income by 10, and adding any outstanding debts.

For example, if you make \$30,000 a year and you have a \$100,000 mortgage, you should have around \$400,000 worth of coverage.

*Remember... some insurance is better than none!
Don't worry if you can't afford the full package.*

Writing a Will

Thinking about writing a will is never a pleasant idea, but it's a necessary one. This is one more step to make sure your child will be safe if anything happens to you.

What's in it for me and my baby?



Preparing a will is a chance to decide who will take care of your children in the event of your passing.



A will can help ease the stress for family members after your passing.



While you aren't required by law to make a will, having one lets you choose how your property will be distributed. If you don't create a will, your child could end up with very few of your possessions.

Questions? Call
Legal Information Society of NS
1-902-454-2198

WRITING A WILL





Do I need a lawyer to write my will?



No lawyer is required, although a lawyer can give advice when you are designing your will. You can create the will yourself, use a will kit, or hire a lawyer to help you. A lawyer can also help make sure that the document is legal, and the will is clear about who will take care of your children.

Where do I start?

Start by gathering important documents that should be listed in your will:

-  Birth, death, marriage and divorce certificates
-  Mortgage papers
-  Banking information: banking numbers, investment portfolio numbers
-  Insurance policy numbers ⁴⁹



WRITING A WILL




What should I say in my will?

Make sure you consider the following questions when you are writing your will. It is very important to address each issue in clear language, as you want everyone to understand your wishes.



- Who will be the guardian for your child? Make sure you discuss this with the potential guardian and make sure that they have agreed.
- Who will be your executor? (This is someone you trust to carry out the instructions in your will).
- Do you want to leave any specific items or sums of money for any of your relatives or close friends?
- Who do you want to receive the rest of your estate? Partner? Children? Charities? If it is being left to children, should it be immediate or at a certain age?
- If someone you have given property or money to in your will passes away, who would you like their items to go to? ⁵⁰

MY TO-DO LIST

-  Buy life insurance, or make sure you're already receiving the right amount of coverage
-  Choose who will look after your children if something happens to you. Make sure you have discussed this with them.
-  Create a basic will

