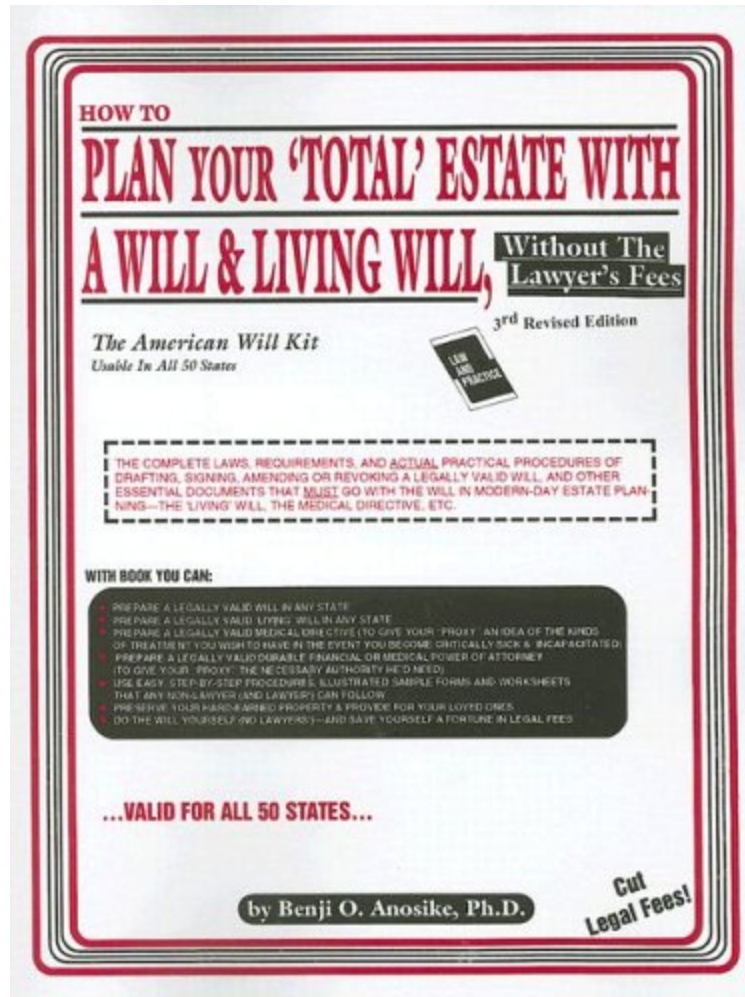


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## How to Plan Your Total Estate with a Will Living Will: Without the Lawyer's Fees

Benjamin Anosike

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**Benjamin Anosike : How to Plan Your Total Estate with a Will Living Will: Without the Lawyer's Fees** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised How to Plan Your Total Estate with a Will Living Will: Without the Lawyer's Fees:

Book by Anosike, Benjamin

From Library Journal There has been so much public interest in estate planning that it is no surprise that three new books on the subject have emerged at the same time. Each takes a different approach and addresses different goals.

The American Bar Association Guide to Wills and Estates overviews the law of estate planning. It provides explanations of wills, trusts, and living trusts and covers essential information like choosing an executor, dealing with taxes, and planning for disability. An estate-planning checklist allows readers to evaluate their own situation to create or update their estate plan. Important concepts appear in shaded boxes; there is also a helpful section on where to get more information. The most basic of the three titles, this is a good choice for those getting started or looking for an organized review of the issues. Written for those who want to draft their own wills, Anosike's volume is in workbook style with text, forms, and worksheets that provide an outline of things to consider and procedures for constructing the instruments necessary for an estate plan. The author also provides forms for constructing a living will for each state as well as the legal requirements for a valid will in every jurisdiction. There are useful details in this book, including a sample letter of instructions to an executor. The writing and layout could use some polish, but the information is current and complete. Do-it-yourselfers will want to compare this to Denis Clifford's *Nolo's Simple Will Book*, 2d ed. (Nolo Pr., 1989; updated in later printings), which is somewhat cleaner in style. Attorney Platt has designed his book to prepare the reader to become better informed to participate in the planning process with estate professionals. He is clearly an advocate of the living trust, the popular device that allows individuals to place their assets in trust while they are still alive. The trustor retains control of the assets during his or her lifetime, with heirs avoiding expensive and time-consuming probate procedures after the trustor's death. Platt's treatment of the topic is expansive and timely. He devotes entire chapters to the unique problems of people with AIDS and for those with children with special needs. There is a solid glossary and a worksheet for determining net worth. Recommended for subject collections. ?Joan Pedzich, Harris, Beach Wilcox, Rochester, N.Y. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist In *How to Plan Your 'Total' Estate*, Anosike writes that among the most common estate planning objectives are avoiding probate (which means avoiding an array of court costs, expensive lawyers' fees, and long delays), minimizing death taxes, arranging for proper distribution of your property, and planning for the final settlement of your estate. Anosike explains the details of a will and the financial power of attorney. In an appendix, he gives the minimum legal requirements for a valid will in each state and reproduces statutory and other living will forms required in each state. There also is a glossary of probate and legal terms. George Cohen Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved