
Avoiding Family Conflicts After a Death

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No one likes to think about their own mortality, but making a proper estate plan can help to lessen the grief of loved ones left behind. Alternately, without a written estate plan, surviving family members are often saddled with the responsibility of making estate decisions without a clear understanding of the deceased's wishes.

The effects of poor [estate planning](#) [1] can be far-reaching, but perhaps one of the most insidious effects is the conflict that can occur within families as a result. Many individuals believe that their family is too close to squabble over money or "who gets what", but they miss the point. Even families with the best relationships can experience conflict because of poor estate planning.

To help surviving family members move forward with solidarity after a loss, here are some proven tips for reducing the possibility of family blowouts and arguments.

1. **Talk Openly with Your Family.** The biggest problem with leaving your family to finalize your estate, and the one most likely to cause conflict, is that they will not have a clear understanding about your estate planning strategy. Make a point to discuss your wishes with your family and let them know what you want. This is not a one-time conversation; it should be an ongoing process. Consider having a family meeting to discuss your wishes and let them know what you want. This is not a one-time conversation; it should be an ongoing process.
2. **Make a Will.** A will is a legal document that states what you want to happen to your assets after you die. It is a way to make sure your wishes are carried out and to avoid the uncertainty of intestacy. Make a will and let your family know where it is. This is not a one-time conversation; it should be an ongoing process.
3. **Consider Joint Ownership.** Joint ownership of assets can be a way to avoid the uncertainty of intestacy. However, it can also create complications if one owner dies. Consider joint ownership of assets and let your family know where it is. This is not a one-time conversation; it should be an ongoing process.
4. **Keep Your Wishes Private.** It is important to keep your wishes private to avoid family conflicts. Do not tell everyone what you want to happen to your assets after you die. This is not a one-time conversation; it should be an ongoing process.
5. **Choose a Suitable Executor.** Selecting the right person to carry out your wishes is crucial. Choose someone who is trustworthy and capable of handling the responsibilities of an executor. This is not a one-time conversation; it should be an ongoing process.

Speak to a qualified financial advisor if you have questions or concerns about creating a proper estate plan for

either yourself or someone else in your family.

Questions about Estate Planning?

[Contact our office!](#) [6]

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