

A Living Will

THE LIVING WILL REGISTRY

In 1983, Concern for Dying instituted the Living Will Registry, a computerized file system where you may keep an up-to-date copy of your Living Will in our New York office.

What are the benefits of joining the Living Will Registry?

- CONCERN'S staff will ensure that your form is filled out correctly, assign you a Registry Number and maintain a copy of your Living Will.
- CONCERN'S staff will be able to refer to your personal document, explain procedures and options, and provide you with the latest case law or state legislation should you, your proxy or anyone else acting on your behalf need counseling or legal guidance in implementing your Living Will
- You will receive a permanent, credit card size plastic mini-will with your Registry number imprinted on it. The mini-will, which contains your address, CONCERN'S address and a short version of the Living Will, indicates that you have already filled out a full-sized, witnessed Living Will document

How do you join the Living Will Registry?

- Review your Living Will, making sure it is up-to-date and contains any specific provisions that you want added.
- Mail a copy of your original, signed and witnessed document along with a check for \$25.00 to:

The Living Will Registry
Concern for Dying
250 West 57th Street, Room 831
New York, New York 10107

The one-time Registry enrollment fee will cover the costs of processing and maintaining your Living Will and of issuing your new plastic mini will.

- If you have any address changes or wish to add or delete special provisions that you have included in your Living Will, please write to the Registry so that we can keep your file up to date.

TO MAKE BEST USE OF YOUR LIVING WILL

You may wish to add specific statements to the Living *Will in the space provided for that purpose* above *your* signature Possible additional provisions are:

1 "Measures of artificial life-support in the face of impending death that I specifically refuse are:

- a) Electrical or mechanical resuscitation of my heart when it has stopped beating.
- b) Nasogastric tube feeding when I am paralyzed or unable to take nourishment by mouth.
- c) Mechanical respiration when I am no longer able to sustain my own breathing.
- d) -----

2 "I would like to live out my last days at home ratter than in a hospital if it does not jeopardize the chance of my recovery to a meaningful and sentient life or does not impose an undue burden on my family. "

3 "if any of my tissues are sound and would be of value as transplants to other people. I freely give my permission for such donation. "

The optional Durable Power of Attorney feature allows you to name someone else to serve as your proxy in case you are unable to communicate your wishes Should you choose to fill in this portion of the document, you must have your signature: notarized.

If you choose more than one proxy for decision-making on your behalf. please give order of priority (1, 2, 3, etc).

Space is provided at the bottom of the Living Will for notarization should you chop»e to have your Living Will witnessed by a Notary Public.

REMEMBER...

Sign and date your living Will Your two witnesses, who should not be blood relatives or beneficiaries of your property will should also sign in the spaces provided.

Discuss your Living Will with your doctors, if they agree with you, give them copies of your signed Living Will document for them to add to your medical file.

Give copies of your signed Living Will to anyone who may be making decisions for you if you are unable to make them yourself.

Look over your Living Will once a year, redate it and initial the new date to make it clear that your wishes have not changed.

For additional Living Wills, or the appropriate document in those states which have passed Living Will legislation, use coupon on reverse side.

The Concern for Dying newsletter is a quarterly publication reporting the most recent development in the field of death and dying. It contains announcements of upcoming educational conferences, workshops and symposia, as well as reviews of current literature. The Newsletter is sent to anyone who contributes \$5.00 or more annually to CONCERN FOR DYING.

I would like to receive the Newsletter.

I would like to enroll in the Living Will Registry

Additional materials available to contributors:

Questions and Answers About the Living Will

Selected articles and case histories

A bibliography

Information on films

A mini-will, a condensed version of the Living Will which can be carried in a wallet in case of accident or emergency, will be sent upon receipt of a contribution.