



A Legacy for Freedom

A Short Guide to Making Your Will

“No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms”

Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
Article 4 — 10 December 1948

Why Make a Will?

Making a Will is perhaps one of the most important acts of your life. If you do not make plans, it is highly unlikely that your estate (everything you own) will be distributed in the way you would have wished.

How to Make a Will

The following outlines the basic stages.

1. Use a solicitor

It is worth paying a solicitor for your peace of mind. You could make a Will yourself, but one slip up in the wording could mean that your wishes are not carried out.

2. Value your estate

Before visiting the solicitor, make a list of your assets, and what you owe and estimate the values. Your assets could include a house, car, savings, household effects, etc. What you owe could include a mortgage, loans, overdraft, etc.

3. Decide on the people and charities you wish to benefit

You will no doubt want to secure the future of your family and loved ones before considering supporting your favourite causes. You can leave gifts in a number of ways including pecuniary and residuary legacies.

A Pecuniary Legacy is when you leave a sum of money or a specific item to your chosen beneficiary. Remember that inflation eats away at a fixed sum of money so it is worth reviewing your Will every so often.

Suggested wording:

I give to Anti-Slavery International, Registered Charity No. 1049160, Thomas Clarkson House, The Stableyard, Broomgrove Road, London SW9 9TL, the sum of £ [or an item e.g. a picture] for its general charitable purposes and I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or any other duly authorised officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge.

A Residuary Legacy is of greatest benefit to Anti-Slavery, as its value is not eroded by inflation. The residue of your estate is what is left after your debts and expenses have been paid.

Suggested wording:

I give all [or specify a proportion] of the residue of my estate to Anti-Slavery International, Registered Charity No. 1049160, Thomas Clarkson House, The Stableyard, Broomgrove Road, London SW9 9TL, to be applied by Anti-Slavery International for its general charitable purposes and I further direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or any other duly authorised officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge.

4. Choose executors

Executors are people appointed by you in your Will to deal with your affairs after your death.

5. Signing the Will and witnesses

You will need to sign your Will in the presence of two witnesses. Make sure you put your Will somewhere safe and tell someone where it is.

Keeping your Will up to date

Remember to review your Will every so often to make sure that it still reflects your wishes and current circumstances. To make a minor change, you can add a separate legal document that should be kept with your Will, called a codicil. For more significant changes, it is best to make a new Will.

Suggested wording for a codicil:

I [name] of [address] declare this to be my 1st/ 2nd/ etc codicil to my Will dated and made the [date] day of [month] [year].

1. In addition to any legacies given by me by my said Will I give to Anti-Slavery International, charity no. 1049160, Thomas Clarkson House, The Stableyard, Broomgrove Road, London SW9 9TL the sum of £ [or description of item] for its general charitable purposes and I further direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or any other duly authorised officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my executors.

2. In all other respects I confirm my said Will and my other codicils hereto.

In witness whereof I the said [Name in full in capitals] have here to set my hand this [date] day of [month] [year] as a codicil to my last Will.

Signed by the Testator in our presence and attested by us in the presence of him/her and of each other

[Full names of witnesses in capitals]

Witness 1:	Witness 2:
Signature	Signature
Name	Name
Address	Address
Date	Date

**If you have any further questions, please contact Raj Dasani in confidence on
+44 20 7501 8940 or r.dasani@antislavery.org**

Anti-Slavery International is a registered charity no. 1049160