

DISCUSSION TOPICS & STORY IDEAS

Barbara McGinnis, Elder Law Expert

Long-Term Care Trends

A growing population of elderly people may not mean more crowded nursing homes. Barbara Boone McGinnis explains common misconceptions about aging in America.

New approaches to long-term care are giving families more choices than ever. Barbara Boone McGinnis explains the most interesting new developments.

Money, Power & Control

The long-term illness or death of an elderly family member can create a unique set of problems for blended families. Barbara Boone McGinnis explains the pitfalls of inheritance in the age of step children and exes.

Is a will scribbled on a cocktail napkin valid? Will your heirs gather for a reading of the will after your death? Barbara Boone McGinnis debunks six common myths about wills.

Most adult children don't know when to assume control of parents' finances or how to go about doing it. Barbara Boone McGinnis explains when and how to pick up the financial reins.

Family Relationships

When you're parenting your parents, your world seems upside down. Barbara Boone McGinnis offers sensible strategies to survive this rite of passage.

The long-term illness of an elderly parent often resurrects simmering sibling rivalries. Barbara Boone McGinnis explains how to survive the process without destroying family relationships.

What happens when feuding family members are so busy fighting each other that the well-being of an elderly loved one is in jeopardy? Barbara Boone McGinnis explains the latest approaches for dealing with high-conflict families.

Caregiving Challenges

More and more adults are balancing the care of elderly parents with the demands of career, spouse and children. Barbara Boone McGinnis offers sensible strategies for survival to the Sandwich Generation.

Shouldering the demands of care without help is a recipe for burnout and resentment. Barbara Boone McGinnis explains how caregivers can avoid burnout without burning family bridges.

Your elderly mother needs care—but she lives 500 miles away. Barbara Boone McGinnis explains the dos and don'ts of long-distance caregiving.

Paying for Long-Term Care

Many seniors are realizing they can't afford long-term care. Barbara Boone McGinnis explains the total (and hidden) costs of long-term care and lays out the financing options.

Many families make decisions about long-term care without getting all the facts. Barbara Boone McGinnis explains the basics of government benefits, including how to qualify, what's covered, facts about estate recovery, and new options for care.

Quality of Care/Quality of Life

Many family members worry about the quality of care in a nursing home. Barbara Boone McGinnis shows families how to become advocates for quality care and explains the latest in chronic care and long-term care.

If you need outside help to care for a loved one, where do you start? Barbara Boone McGinnis offers tips for hiring a caregiver.

End-of-Life Decisions

Who will make healthcare decisions for you when you're unable to make them yourself? How do you want to be taken care of at the end of your life? Barbara Boone McGinnis explains why every estate plan should answer these questions. How do you talk about death with people who always seemed larger than life? Barbara Boone McGinnis explains the dos and don'ts of initiating end-of-life discussions with parents.

Eighty percent of Americans say that if they were seriously ill, they would want to talk to their doctor about how they would like their lives to end. Yet only seven percent actually have the conversation. Barbara Boone McGinnis explains the disconnect.