

# Get Involved >>>>Take Action

## Personal Responsibility for Health Crisis Management

When we are teenagers, we rely on our parents to take care of matters if we have a major accident or become seriously ill. Health crisis management is an adult thing.

When we are in our twenties, we often act as if we are invincible. We don't worry or even think of such matters.

When we are married, we know that our spouse will have legal responsibility to care for us and make critical decisions regarding our health care in such situations.

But what about unmarried men and women who are middle-aged or older? What will happen if they are temporarily or permanently unable to make medical decisions? Who will take charge? What will happen?

In this mailing to members of Unmarried America, we have included an insert about "Advance Directives" such as "Living Wills" and "Medical Powers of Attorney." If you don't already have such documents – you should!

Along with answers to some frequently asked questions on this topic, the insert includes a website address where you can access forms for your state, download them, print them, fill them out, have them witnessed, and become protected when the need may arise.

Please take the time to read the insert and then follow through by preparing and signing these documents. You can do this on your own. You owe it to yourself to take responsibility for health crisis management.

## Write to your Senators about the 'Marriage Bonus' Tax Bill



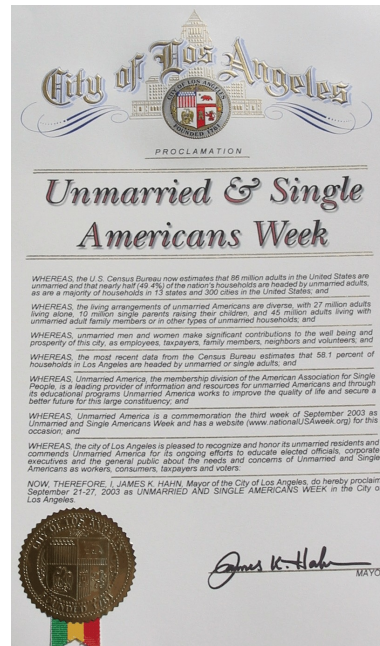
The United States House of Representatives recently passed a bill (HR 4181) which will make "marriage bonuses" a permanent part of the federal income tax code. These bonuses will create a deficit for the federal government of \$105 billion over the next 10 years alone.

If we ever plan to reduce or eliminate the deficit, someone will have to pay for these marriage bonuses. Guess who? Current and future generations of unmarried taxpayers. That's who.

Read the enclosed story about this issue and take action. Write to the two U.S. Senators from your state and share your views with them. The President will sign this bill. The Senate will therefore decide its fate. Get involved.

## National USA Week Sept. 19 - 25, 2004

Each year Unmarried America commemorates the third full week of September as National Unmarried and Single Americans Week.



We ask elected officials to issue proclamations or issue greetings recognizing the contributions that we make to society as unmarried workers, taxpayers, voters, volunteers, family members, and neighbors.

We also confer awards on individuals and organizations who have advanced the cause of fairness for single people or who have helped unmarried Americans in a significant way.

In the past, the staff of Unmarried America has done most of the outreach to secure proclamations and greetings. This year, due to budget cutbacks, we must rely entirely on our members to make these requests.

We have included an insert with this mailing which tells you how to request proclamations from the governor of your state, the mayor of your city, or your city council representative. We have also included instructions on how to ask your U.S. Senators and Representative in Congress to issue a Greeting to Unmarried America and to their unmarried constituents as well.

This is a major election year. All members of the House of Representatives are up for reelection, as are 32 members of the United States Senate. Many mayors and governors will also be on the ballot.

These politicians should make a symbolic gesture to Unmarried America by issuing a proclamation or a greeting. But for this to happen, we need to remind them of this occasion. **You can ask them to respond.**