



LIBERTY

The Civil
Liberties Trust

THE FIGHT THAT IS NEVER DONE

A GUIDE TO SUPPORTING LIBERTY THROUGH YOUR WILL



PA Images / Alamy

THANK YOU FOR STANDING WITH US

Liberty's work is made possible by the kindness of people who leave us gifts in their wills. Thank you for considering this special way of supporting us.

Writing a will is something many of us put off but it's simpler than you might think. We hope this guide inspires you to get started on your will and leave something to the people and causes you care about.

Supporters often tell us that by pledging a gift to Liberty in their will, they know they can keep their belief in human rights alive. Inside you'll find some of their stories. It's a real honour for us when someone makes this lasting commitment to our work and we hope you'll get in touch to share your story too.

Thank you for standing with us in the fight for freedom and justice.

THE FIGHT THAT IS NEVER DONE

WHY LIBERTY WAS FOUNDED

Not so different from now, Britain in the early 1930s was facing economic crisis, the growth of the far right and the long shadow of international conflict.

In 1932, the organisers of the National Hunger March tried to deliver a petition of one million signatures to Parliament, in protest against laws that had plunged thousands into extreme poverty. One hundred thousand protesters gathered in Hyde Park in support. Among them was Liberty's founder, a journalist and bookseller called Ronald Kidd.

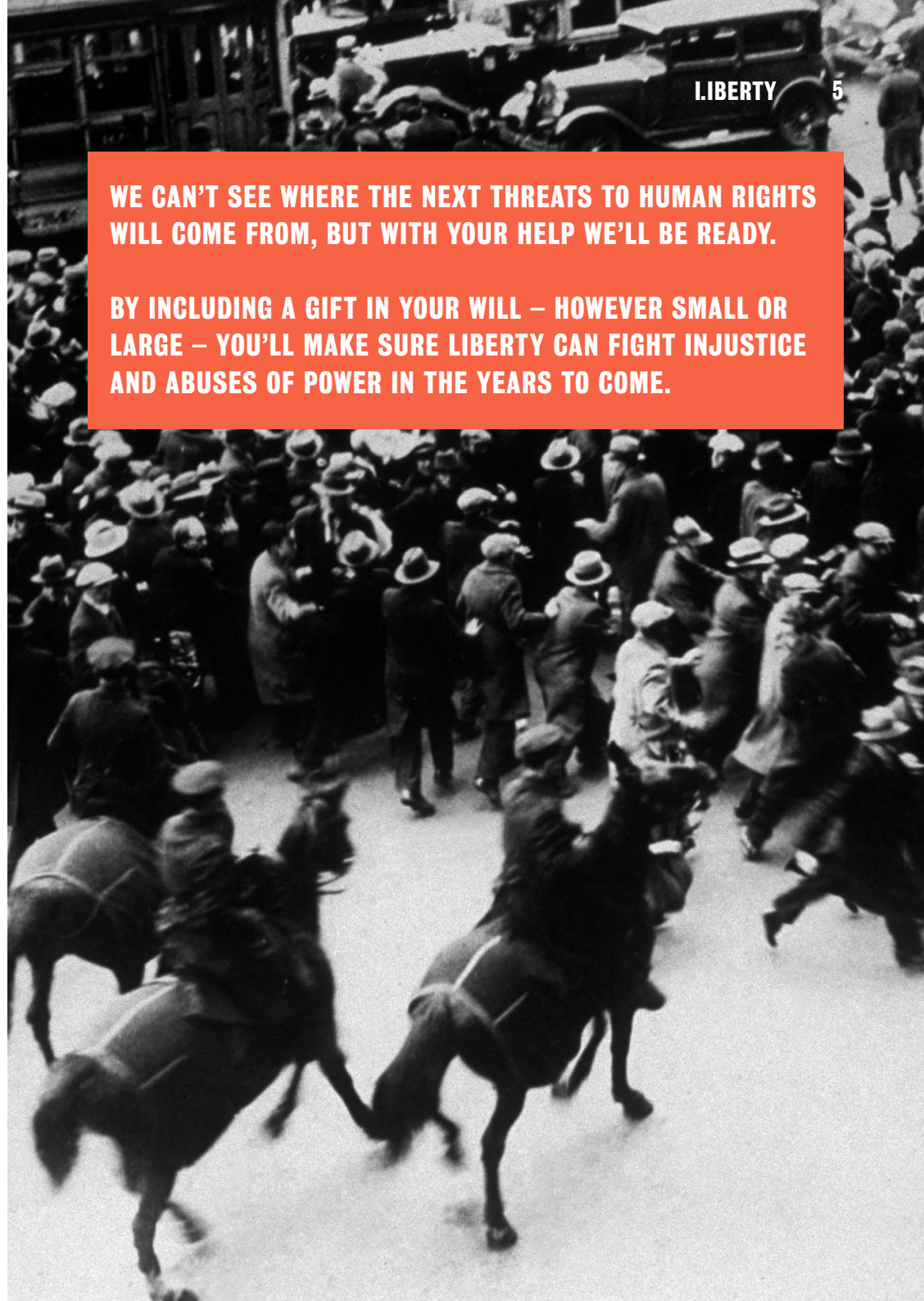
The petition was blocked from reaching Parliament, and thousands of police officers mobilised against the protest. Kidd saw first hand the brutal tactics of the police, who charged protesters on horseback and used undercover officers to incite violence.

Over the coming months, Kidd rallied together a group of writers, activists, lawyers and artists to take a stand. In February 1934, they formed the National Council for Civil Liberties, now called Liberty, to defend the right to protest, stand vigil against abuses of power, and keep watch over people's rights and freedoms. For nearly a century, we have continued this work, growing into a movement of thousands.

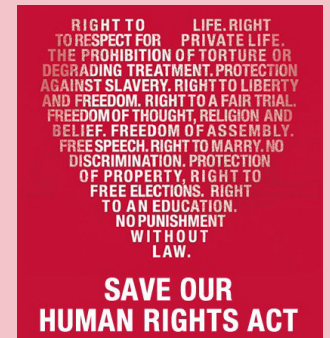
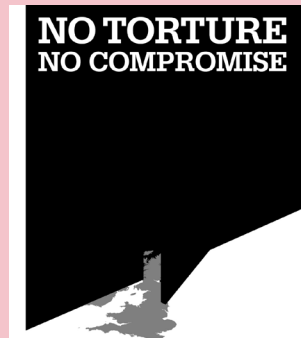
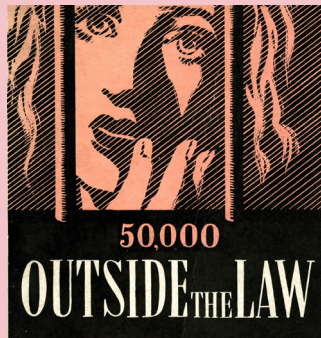
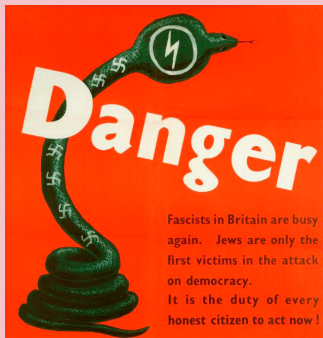
Our founders knew that Liberty would always be needed, because people's rights and freedoms often get in the way of those in power. That's why our first President, the writer E.M. Forster, described Liberty's work as *"the fight that is never done"*.

WE CAN'T SEE WHERE THE NEXT THREATS TO HUMAN RIGHTS WILL COME FROM, BUT WITH YOUR HELP WE'LL BE READY.

BY INCLUDING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL – HOWEVER SMALL OR LARGE – YOU'LL MAKE SURE LIBERTY CAN FIGHT INJUSTICE AND ABUSES OF POWER IN THE YEARS TO COME.



A HISTORY OF STANDING UP FOR PEOPLE'S RIGHTS



2024

Being part of Liberty gives us a sense of being part of history, and not many of us get to feel that in our lives.

FRANCESCA KLUG - LIBERTY MEMBER

FIGHTING THE RISE OF FASCISM

In its early years Liberty and its members fight the rise of fascism, police attacks on peaceful protesters and threats to press freedom.

1934

MENTAL HEALTH LAWS REFORMED

In the 1940s and 50s Liberty helps revolutionise Britain's deeply unjust mental health laws, which had led to thousands of cases of false imprisonment.

DEFENDING THE RIGHT TO PROTEST

Throughout its history, Liberty advises protesters on their rights, often sending legal observers to keep people safe.

THE WAR ON TERROR

In the 2000s Liberty fights the worst excesses of the war on terror, including ID Cards, 42-day detention without charge and UK complicity in torture.

PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY

Following the Snowden leaks in 2013, Liberty stands up for the right to privacy, proving in court that GCHQ spied on human rights organisations and innocent members of the public.

SAVING OUR HUMAN RIGHTS LAWS

Liberty mobilises widespread support to save the Human Rights Act from repeal and defends UK membership of the European Convention on Human Rights.

YOU ARE PART OF SOMETHING GREAT

Liberty members, supporters and staff share a powerful vision: a country where everyone's human rights are protected, and those in power are held to account.

This is not just the work of one organisation at one point in history. It's the work of a movement across generations.

We are fighting on many fronts today – facing clampdowns on our right to protest, new technologies which affect our right to privacy and free expression, and attacks on our human rights protections.

Liberty's investigative journalists are on the ground uncovering human rights abuses. Our campaigners and policy experts are scrutinising new laws and making sure people know when their rights are affected. And our lawyers are in the courts holding the Government accountable.

None of this would be possible without you, our members and supporters, and the generosity of people who leave us donations in their wills.

By leaving a gift – of any size – you'll help fight injustice far beyond our lifetimes.

I know this is an important decision and I thank you for considering making this lasting commitment to the work Liberty does.

Akiko



AKIKO HART
LIBERTY DIRECTOR

WHY I'M LEAVING A GIFT TO LIBERTY



"For many years, I have given regular contributions to Liberty through a standing order and so now it is only natural for me to be leaving a bequest in my will.

We have needed the dedicated work of Liberty since before I was born and, unfortunately, I fear that we shall continue to need it after I have passed away. Leaving a bequest to Liberty in my will is my modest contribution to the battles to come."

JOHN KEIDAN – LIBERTY MEMBER

HOW TO WRITE OR UPDATE YOUR WILL

Getting started

Writing a will is something we all put off but it's so important and really quite straightforward.

The first step is to make a list of your assets (for example your property, savings, investments and specific items). Then decide how you want them to be shared among your beneficiaries.

You'll also need to choose your executors – the people named in your will to carry out your wishes.

Writing your will

For peace of mind and to make sure your will is valid, we recommend contacting a professional to write or update your will (or to check it over if you write one yourself).

If you don't already have a solicitor, the Law Society can help you find one local to you. Call **020 7320 5650** or visit solicitors.lawsociety.org.uk

You can also use one of our free will services on p.14 and have your will written or updated free of charge.

Put your will somewhere safe

Once your will has been signed and witnessed, keep it somewhere safe (let your executors know where).

You can store it with a solicitor and there is no charge if you leave it with the one who drafts your will. You can also store it with the government's Probate Service. Call **0300 303 0648** for more info.

Keep your will up to date

Review your will every few years to make sure it's up to date, especially if your circumstances change.

FOUR GREAT REASONS TO WRITE YOUR WILL TODAY

- 1** Look after loved ones and appoint guardians for your children and pets.
- 2** Have your say on who inherits your possessions and what they'll receive.
- 3** Support human rights and the other causes you care about.
- 4** With our free will offer you can write a will at no cost to you.



USEFUL INFO FOR YOU AND YOUR SOLICITOR

- ✓ You can leave a gift to Liberty or to **the Civil Liberties Trust**, which supports the charitable parts of Liberty's work. Liberty is not a charity.
- ✓ Include our address in your wording. This is the same for Liberty and the Civil Liberties Trust: **Liberty House, 26-30 Strutton Ground, SW1P 2HR**
- ✓ Gifts to the Civil Liberties Trust should also specify its **registered charity number: 1024948**
- ✓ Gifts to the Civil Liberties Trust are free from Inheritance Tax.
- ✓ Leaving more than 10% of your net estate to registered charities like the Civil Liberties Trust may reduce the rate of Inheritance Tax payable. To find out more, please visit gov.uk/inheritance-tax-reduced-rate-calculator

Please get in touch if you have any questions about the two organisations.

TYPES OF GIFTS IN WILLS

If you would like to leave a gift to Liberty or the Civil Liberties Trust in your will, there are a few different ways you can do this.

% A share of your estate

Many supporters choose to leave a percentage of their estate after other gifts and taxes have been paid. This is called a **residuary gift**. Even a small percentage will help make sure our work to defend human rights can continue for years to come.

£ A cash gift

Others decide to leave a fixed amount of their choosing. This is called a **pecuniary gift**. Because the value of money changes over time, you may wish to update your will periodically to keep pace with inflation.

🏠 Specific items

You can also leave a **specific gift** of items of value, such as jewellery, shares or property.

WRITE YOUR WILL FOR FREE

Liberty is pleased to offer a free will writing service to supporters online, by phone and in person with a local solicitor.

There is no obligation to leave a gift to Liberty or the Civil Liberties Trust if you use either service. But our hope is that you might feel able to, once your loved ones have been provided for.

ONLINE AND TELEPHONE WILL WRITING SERVICE



We've partnered with will-writing specialists Farewill so you can write an online will for free in under 30 minutes. Scan the QR code above or visit farewill.com/liberty-guide to get started.

We also have a limited number of free telephone wills available. Call Farewill on **020 8050 2686** and mention "The Civil Liberties Trust".

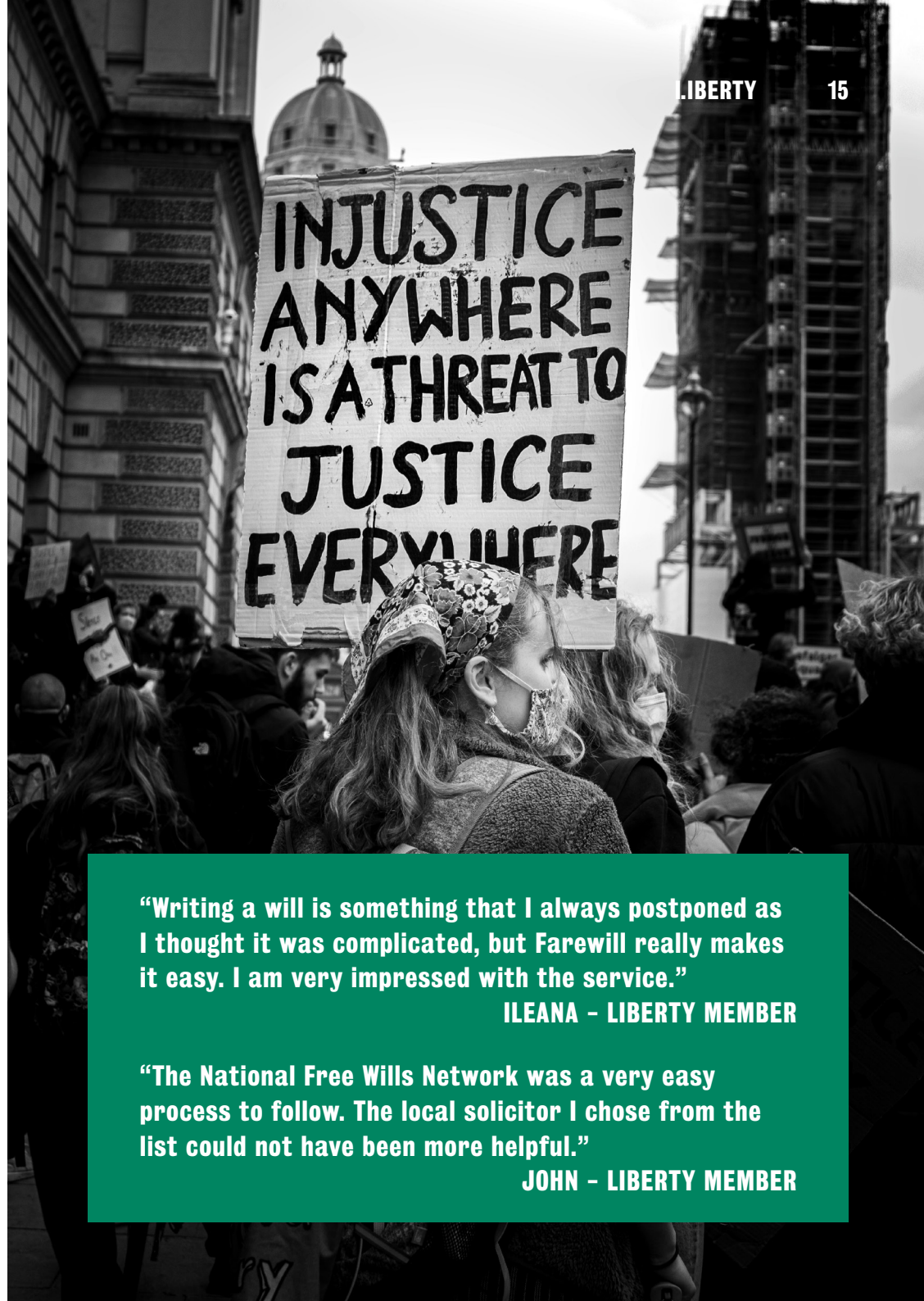
MEET WITH A SOLICITOR IN YOUR LOCAL AREA



We also offer a free face-to-face will writing service through the National Free Wills Network. This allows you to have a free will or joint will written by an independent solicitor in your area.

To request your free will voucher and a list of solicitors to choose from, scan the QR code or visit libertyhumanrights.org.uk/nfwn

Both schemes cover the cost of a simple will or mirror wills, which Liberty pays for at a discounted rate. Complex wills which include trusts and businesses may require a top-up fee.



"Writing a will is something that I always postponed as I thought it was complicated, but Farewill really makes it easy. I am very impressed with the service."

ILEANA - LIBERTY MEMBER

"The National Free Wills Network was a very easy process to follow. The local solicitor I chose from the list could not have been more helpful."

JOHN - LIBERTY MEMBER

GET IN TOUCH

If you have any questions about supporting us through your will, please get in touch with Jenny in our Philanthropy team.

EMAIL jennyg@libertyhumanrights.org.uk

TELEPHONE 020 7378 3650

POST Liberty House, 26-30 Strutton Ground, SW1P 2HR

ONLINE Scan the QR code or visit libertyhumanrights.org.uk/legacies



SHARE YOUR STORY

If, like Gwen, you decide to leave Liberty or the Civil Liberties Trust a gift in your will, we'd love to hear from you so we can say thank you and keep in touch according to your preferences. You can share as much or as little information about your pledge as you wish.

Thank you for your support.

"I've been an active supporter of human rights all my adult life (and I'm now 75!). By leaving money to the Civil Liberties Trust I know I can in some small way continue what has been lifelong work, even after my death."

GWEN - LIBERTY MEMBER

