

## **A new legal institute for mentally disordered people**

On 20<sup>th</sup> March 2004 law n. 6/2004 was issued, creating new patterns in protection of people unable to manage their own business, such as a sort of manager (called “amministratore di sostegno”).

In the past, there were two legal institutes for insane people: a guardian (“tutore”) for totally insane ones, and a curator (“curatore”) for those partially insane.

With law n. 6/2004, the “tutore” and the “curatore” are not abolished, and insane people’s interests can be alternately cured either by “tutore”, “curatore”, or by an “amministratore di sostegno”.

In fact, the “tutore” takes care of people who are abnormally unable to manage their business while the “curatore” assists people who show a less serious insanity, and the “amministratore” deals with people who have every sort of limitation or difficulty, both partial and temporary, helping them to exercise their rights.

The administrative procedure for designation of “amministratore di sostegno” is easier, cheaper and closer to unable people’s interests.

People who have an “amministratore”, are not totally unable to exercise their rights (as it happens with “tutore” and – partially - with “curatore”): their inability stands only to limited cases, stated in the designation of the “amministratore”.

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