

## **Chapter 3: The critical role of term life insurance in protecting families and financial futures**

### **3.1. Introduction to Term Life Insurance**

Life insurance basically encompasses a legal contract between a policy holder and an insurance provider, where the provider guarantees payment of a determinate sum of money to the insured's designated beneficiary(ies), on death of the insured, in return for a premium paid by the insured within specified period or at specified intervals. Broadly, life insurance can be divided into two categories: (1) The whole life insurance and the endowment insurance which entitles the insured or the beneficiary(ies) to a cash value after the insured's death or maturity of the policy respectively, termed as permanent insurance; and alternatively (2) Term insurance which is typically for a period of years that does not have an additional cash value and pays a stated amount if the insured dies during the specified term period. Consequently, the amount of premium for term insurance is much lower than that for permanent insurance, making it much more affordable and thus popular with families (Manral, 2015; Dos Santos, 2021; Mobilunity, 2024). There are two main types of term life insurance: level term and decreasing term insurance. A level term policy guarantees the same amount of insurance for the length of the policy's term. Decreasing term insurance provides insurance that shrinks over the term of the policy. Individuals generally choose level term policies since the insured's beneficiaries would likely need the same amount of financial support in future years after the insured's death. Considering the popularity of term life insurance with families, it is not surprising to note that currently, about 54% of all American adults believe that term life insurance is the most reasonable way to protect families. Only 38% of Americans have term life insurance however, and the need for life insurance is five to six times more than the supply.

Hence, all but the wealthiest of individuals should maintain a certain minimum level of term life insurance protection to provide financial security against an unforeseen loss and premature death, and the prudent family leader will purchase that coverage. The basics of human motivation, therefore, create the essential need for and focus of this

inquiry – whether individuals will indeed act responsibly for their families and purchase adequate term life insurance coverage, or whether they will rely on others to fulfill their obligation of protecting those who depend on them for their complete support (Nanda & Banerjee, 2021; Smith et al., 2022; Rey-Ares et al., 2024).



**Fig 3.1:** Life Insurance in Protecting Families and Financial Futures

**3.1.1. Background and Significance**

While a market driven economy allows individuals access to most resources through a pay-for-play philosophy, there are some things that can only be made accessible through collective purchasing efforts, and the various types of insurance are excellent examples. The family unit as a basic building block of society is the organizing principle of mutual insurance for catastrophic loss. If you are a member of our family, we all accept some responsibility for your well-being. The agreement is that each of us will pay an extra amount to cover losses that will happen to a few of us, the ultimate actuarial calculation. Insurance is such an opening that unless you were born with a silver spoon in your

mouth, most people could not withstand the financial shock of an unexpected event in each other's lives that could wipe out basic security.

Term life insurance, if you will, is the first insurance of all. It fulfills one of our most basic primal instincts, the desire to protect and provide sustenance for those we are responsible for. If an individual lacks the wherewithal to have achieved personal wealth, and their untimely death occurs before equity in their home or accumulated work-related retirement assets are sufficient to assure the well-being of their dependents, the financial well-being of those left behind with no source of income to pay for the basic necessities of life is in grave danger.

### **3.2. Understanding Term Life Insurance**

Term life insurance is a straightforward solution for temporary protection of insurable interest during the life of a policyholder, in exchange for a premium paid to an insurer. It is important to understand the many features of term insurance to properly analyze its benefits, drawbacks, and suitability for a particular consumer. First, the reasons for entry into temporary face-only insurance have traditionally been to provide financial protection and ease of burden during the short- or intermediate-term or specific need periods that many consumers face during their lifetimes. The temporary period could be during a period of greatest economic risk such as the dependents remaining in the household or between the working years and beginning of retirement when financial risks are greatest. The specific need may arise from the financing of a home, business, or college education. These specific risks are limited duration and therefore for a limited period of time can be fulfilled with the lowest-cost insurance option available. Term insurance can be significantly lower in cost than whole or other types of permanent insurance, since it will only provide protection for a brief period of time in the case of premature death.

Second, unlike permanent insurance, term insurance does not accumulate cash value, essentially making it a "face amount only" insurance product. While some have argued that term insurance is the least cost option for those requiring insurance for a temporary coverage period, its temporary nature, inability to accumulate cash value, and lack of contingency features, make it usually unsuitable to fulfill long-term needs for consumers. Finally, the prepaid cost of insurance protective service and traditionally unused cash savings component are incorporated both in the death protection element in the appropriate provision for policy terminations and surrender at time of claim if needed. Prepaid, unused cash elements and administrative expenses are mostly incurred within the earlier duration years of the contract. These common characteristics are important to understand because, while term life insurance can be cost-effective for temporary needs, it is also usually the least suitable option for fulfilling long-term needs.

### **3.2.1. Definition and Features**

In an uncertain world, where unexpected events abound, families often seek protection in the form of financial products such as life insurance contracts. These contracts serve as an underlying hedge against mortality risk. Although life insurance has a long history, artificial hedging of this risk began only early in the 17th century. In the insurance industry, life insurance contracts come in two forms—term life insurance and permanent life insurance. While there are similarities, permanent life insurance is much more complex; the complexity lies mainly in the investment dimension of the product. In contrast, term life insurance is the simplest among a multitude of financial products, enjoying a clear definition. Thus, we begin our analysis of life insurance with term life insurance.

If a family buys temporary insurance, the insurer promises to pay an agreed-upon amount to the family if a specified member of the family dies during a specified term of the policy. The family pays a premium during the term. If the specified family member survives the term, the family receives nothing, but the policy will terminate. Thus, term life insurance is a simple product in the sense that neither the insured nor the insurer has any continuing obligations after the term expires. Unfortunately, many families are not fully protected against a catastrophic loss arising from the untimely death of a breadwinner. The protection provided by temporary insurance will decline over time, with the probability increasing that a family will face such a catastrophic loss unprotected. As a family matures, there is a tendency for the value of temporary insurance to decrease.

### **3.2.2. Types of Term Life Insurance**

One way to think about the different types of term life insurance is based on the duration of the term. Some term life insurance provides relatively short periods of protection – 5 to 10 years. Other term life insurance policies provide protection for longer periods, such as 15, 20, or even 30 years. Still another way that term life insurance is classified is how the premiums may change over time and how the premium amounts are determined. Generally, there are four categories of these term policies:

1. Yearly renewable term – The policy is issued for one year, and the premiums are determined annually according to the policyholder's age at each renewal. This type of term insurance provides the most flexible coverage, in that it can be renewed at an older age. The problem, of course, is that premiums become quite expensive as the insured ages.
2. Level premium term – The premiums remain level during the entire term. This is the most common term policy sold. The most familiar type of this type of insurance is 10-

year term, where premiums are guaranteed not to change during the ten years. After the end of the 10 years, the insured will typically be given the option to renew for a longer period, at a new higher premium rate. This new premium will typically be considerably higher than it was for the previous 10 years, reflecting the policyholder's age at issue.

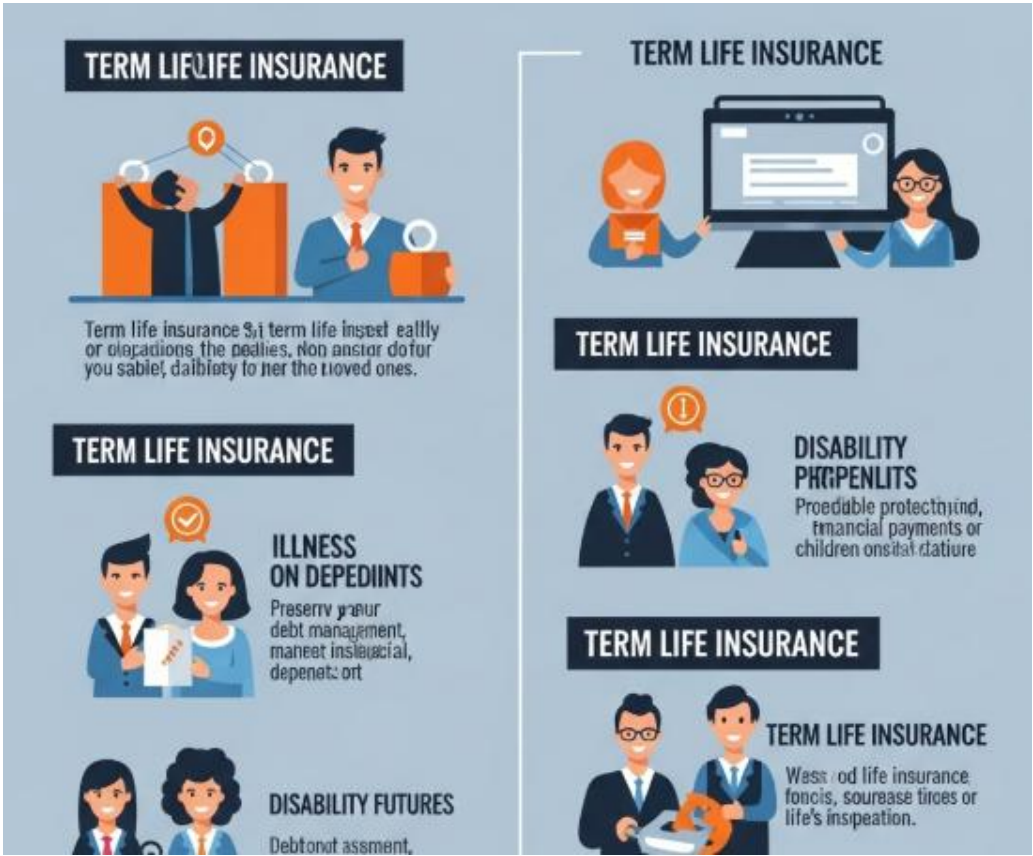
3. Decreasing premium term – The premium starts lower than for a level premium term and gradually increases each year. This type of term insurance is purchased to cover a mortality risk that increases over time. An example is a bank that is lending money to build a new factory and taking out a term insurance policy on the borrower. The bank is primarily concerned with the financial security of the note. As the factory loan is paid off, the bank's risk is reduced. Because the premiums for the first few years are significantly less than for level term insurance, this type of policy is very cost-effective for the first few years.

### **3.3. The Importance of Life Insurance**

A life insurance policy is a contract between you and your insurer. In this agreement, the insurer is required to pay a lump sum or regular payments (called death benefits) when you pass away or become terminally ill. Depending on the type of coverage you buy, you may also receive a lump sum while you are alive if you are diagnosed with a chronic illness or reach the policy's maturity date. In return for these benefits, you must pay a premium (or regular payments), plus any applicable fees or charges. The premium amount may be affected by various factors, including your health, age, gender, and lifestyle.

To clarify further, let us take an example: Imagine a family who has just taken out a mortgage on their first home. They are both working and have young children. The family receives a tragic visit and their husband and dad die suddenly. What happens to the wife and children? They have suffered an emotional tragedy, but they still must keep life going and pay the mortgage on a monthly basis. The children must still continue to be fed, clothed, and cared for until they are old enough to take care of themselves. Now imagine that the husband had taken out a term life policy of, say, \$300,000 and the family gives this to the bank as a payoff of the mortgage. The family would now be mortgage-free. Instead of living under the stress of monthly payments for 20 years, the family could be living stress-free because the mother would have enough money to make a wise investment and live off the proceeds until the kids were old enough to leave the nest and a good lawyer could help her create an estate plan that would help her use the money wisely until such time that the family would no longer require any help. Everything would be taken care of, with no need to call on anyone else for help.

Life insurance is an important legally recognized contract that provides financial peace of mind for your family. Life insurance offers protection against the unexpected – it provides your family with financial security after your death. It is there for your family when they need it the most. Life insurance proves its worth at the death of the insured. Family — spouse — children, and at times parents — can suffer disastrous financial consequences from the death of a principal earner.



**Fig 3.2:** Importance of Life Insurance

There are many factors that need to be taken into consideration when deciding on the amount of coverage a person should take out for term life insurance. One of the first factors that needs to be contemplated is debt coverage and other financial obligations. If you should become deceased tomorrow, do you have debt that would fall on your spouse? Would you want your spouse or surviving family members to incur any of that financial burden? Or have you established any other financial obligations like children or any other dependents? These should all be major considerations in deciding how much money your family will need. For the majority of families, stopping all expense outflow may be difficult. But certainly major line items such as your mortgage, any car payments, and your children's education, if applicable, should be covered first.

### **3.3.1. Financial Security for Families**

Among all insurance types, life insurance is the only one that does not protect the insured. The insured's family is the only beneficiary in the case of insurance liquidation during the insured's life. It is for this reason that it is crucial to properly explain the features and coverage of this product. Term Life Insurance can protect families financially. Events such as the death of the principal partner of a family can have serious consequences. Most families dedicate a specific portion of their budget for basic needs and security – primarily the housing they occupy. The unexpected event of the death of the principal family provider would mean the immediate loss of the economic resources necessary to fulfill their basic needs. The means employed for satisfying these requirements are relatively inelastic in the short to medium term; the danger is that the death of the principal family provider may leave family dependents without the economic resources for satisfying basic needs.

Failing to cover that risk means denying family dependents the means to enjoy the rights normally afforded to them. Life insurance intends to cover that financial risk. Families buy an insurance policy with the aim of guaranteeing through premium payments that, in the unfortunate event of an insured loss occurring, dependents will receive a compensatory amount sufficient to cover the loss of income normally allocated to family expenses. Insurance compensation will be used to cure a small portion of the economic damage caused by the risk. Indeed, the disappearance of an insured person can leave a considerable financial vacuum, compensating their loss through a life insurance policy will allow the family to face immediate expenses.

### **3.3.2. Debt Coverage and Financial Obligations**

Few things are certain in life but death. Regardless of age or health, death is something that will come for each one of us. That's exactly why insurance, and in particular life insurance, is so important. Term life insurance is essential in creating financial stability for families in the event that the primary wage earner were to become deceased. Although it's likely that children and spouses would have access to social security to receive a certain amount of money to help with these expenses, it's unlikely that it would ever cover all living expenses, plus debt coverage. Additionally, term life insurance can also be used to cover children's living expenses for which the now deceased parent or caretaker would have been responsible, including education or even daily living expenses.



### **3.4. How Term Life Insurance Works**

To appreciate how term life insurance helps to safeguard families, it first needs to be understood how term life insurance works. In simple terms, when you purchase a term life policy, you are making a series of premium payments to the insurance company, who in exchange will pay a certain amount of money, known as the death benefit or face amount, to your named beneficiary at your death if you die while the policy is still in effect. Coverage is for a certain amount of time, typically between one and thirty years. When that time period is up, the policy expires.

Term life insurance premiums are based on two basic factors: the cost of insurance for the term of the policy, and the profit margin for issuing the policy. Cost of insurance is determined by several factors, such as the underwriting class that your risk falls into, the age of the insured when the policy is issued, and the gender of the insured. Premiums are usually computed simultaneously for each year of coverage for the insured person, and must take into account that the insured is older, and is more likely to die, with each successive year.

Factors that affect the profit margin include competition in the insurance market, the expense of issuing and maintaining your policy, and the interest rate earned on the company's investments from the time your premiums are collected until the death benefit is paid out. The basic concept of a term life insurance policy is very simple. Each quarterly or annual premium payment is divided into two parts: a mortality charge for buying insurance for the coming year, plus a loading charge for administrative expenses and company profit. The mortality charge is relatively low for young insureds, because few people die in the early years of life. Unfortunately, the mortality charge rises significantly for older insureds.

#### **3.4.1. Premiums and Coverage Amounts**

Whole life or permanent life insurance policies are more expensive because both the protection portion and the savings or investment portion are included in the premium you pay. The savings or investment piece earns a return that is low compared to other options available. In most cases, you would be better off investing the difference in a moderately aggressive investment account, and in the case of your death before retirement, your loved ones would still be greater beneficiaries if you purchased term life insurance with the savings. Later in life, you may want to convert your term policy to a permanent policy to take advantage of your saved earnings. When you purchase a term life insurance policy, you are buying a relatively inexpensive way to provide financial protection for your family during a period of your life when they need it most. This is the time when your family is raising children, and paying a mortgage or still



paying for college and your earnings are at their peak. The need for insurance decreases as your debt reduces and your financial net worth becomes positive during this time. Eventually, the financial pressure to be insured can dissipate altogether and you will likely be underinsured as you reach that stage of your life. If you do not have an employer-sponsored plan or have extra coverage through your employer or your employer pays for your insurance, you should consider taking out your own term insurance. The amount of death benefit you would like your insurance to provide, the length of time your family will be financially dependent upon your income, and the funds available to purchase life insurance help determine what coverage is appropriate to buy and which policy to choose.

### **3.4.2. Policy Terms and Conditions**

Life insurance, particularly, term life insurance, is contractual in nature. The insurance company agrees to provide a benefit upon the death of the insured to the beneficiaries named in the policy in exchange for payment of premiums over a specified period. In the case of term life insurance, the death benefit is the only form of benefit provided; there is no cash value, reserves, or other investment component that gets built up during the period.

In every life insurance policy, including term life insurance policies, there is a listing of conditions and exclusions. The insurance company is liable to pay the face amount only if the terms of the policy have been met. This is known as the insuring clause. Unless it is specified otherwise, the insurer is held liable to pay the stipulated sum at the expiration of the specified period provided that all specific conditions and requirements are duly complied with. Such terms include the payment of premiums, the validity of the policy, the disclosure of material facts, the necessity for medical cover, the specification of an insurable interest, etc.

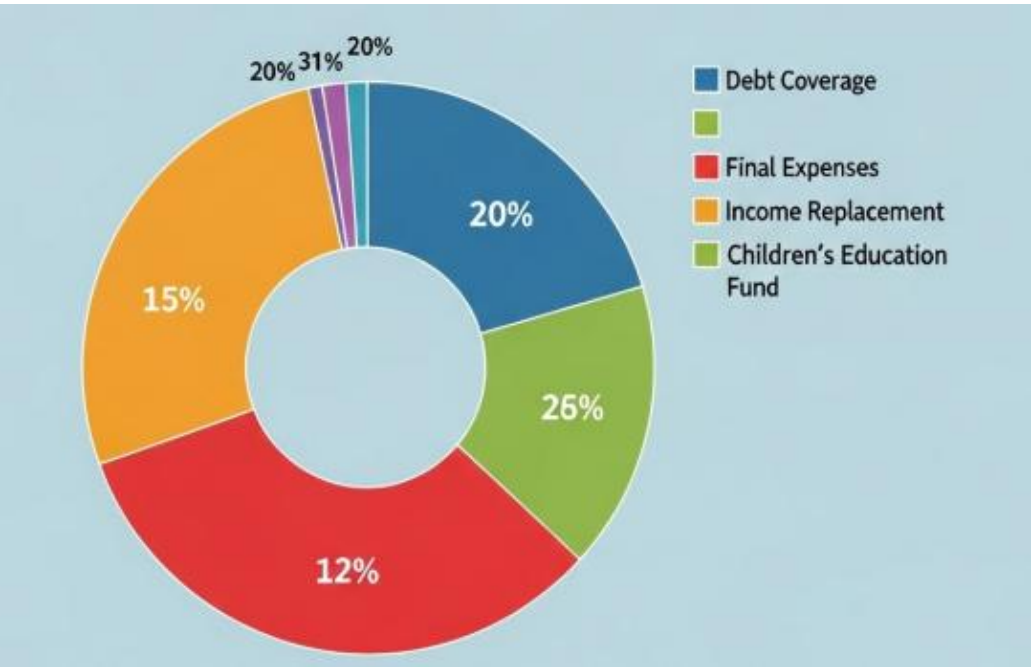
Policies may also contain provisions regarding nonpayment of premiums, accidental death, and reinstatement requirements, as well as receive payment and named beneficiary procedures. The policy may stipulate that if the insured doesn't die of natural causes within two years of the start date of the policy, the death benefit may be limited to the total amount of premiums paid or that no benefit will be paid out at all.

### **3.5. Benefits of Term Life Insurance**

Life insurance is often expensive, especially for young families already burdened with student loan debts, car payments, and mortgages. The affordability of term life insurance, especially in the early years, has made this coverage extremely popular. Although it has

fewer features than other types of life insurance, the majority of Americans choose term life insurance options because of its low cost and ease of understanding. Many recommend that policyholders take the substantial premiums they would spend on cash value life insurance products and invest the money elsewhere for a higher return. And there are plenty of investment options available. Low-cost mutual funds, real estate, and specific individual stocks have been historically reasonable and safe vehicles for cash growth.

When considering the cost of term insurance, it’s also worth noting that the younger you are when you become a policyholder, the less expensive policies will be. In other words, you can take advantage of this product for little money at a time when you are at the highest risk for needing it. Term insurance is also generally very simple to purchase. Because you only pay for the death benefit protection, there are few, if any, questions to answer, and a medical exam isn’t always required. If it’s required, however, it may be simple and provided at no cost to you. Given the incredible amount of choice available, term insurance is extremely flexible. It comes in a multitude of options. It can provide families with appropriate death benefits during the years they are raising them.



**Fig :** Critical Role of Term Life Insurance in Protecting

Besides advantages from a cost perspective, there are other critical benefits; they are straightforward to use. Term insurance is purchased only for the death benefit with limited features and restrictions. This makes it easier to understand than some of the more complicated life insurance policies sold as investment and savings products.

Furthermore, your coverage amount only has to be used at the time of your death – a significant advantage in a stressful period for your family.

Furthermore, the passage of the Affordable Care Act appears to have democratized access to both permanent and term coverage by driving down the cost of obtaining medical exams through insurers who can only attempt to recoup their underwriting costs by selling policies that are more money in force — about double the price of term when considering the amount of insurance coverage provided, the difference in pricing, and the lack of cash value.

### **3.5.1. Affordability and Accessibility**

Term life insurance is arguably more affordable than any other kind of loss of life product and almost certainly the main sort of loss of life product. It is also the only type of coverage that is affordable for an entire lifetime when benefit levels are taken into account. Moreover, that affordability, which already makes term policies an excellent product for budget-conscious families seeking shelter from the financial effects of an unexpected loss of income, is actually being enhanced by technological progress. The digital revolution with its focus on disintermediation – getting people to interact directly with authorized vendors without going through an agent or broker – as well as the shift toward more centralized underwriting operations with big data leveraging a trove of existing information on individuals, is driving cost down by factors on the order of 40-60 percent. As a result, it seems reasonable to expect an increase in the level of term insurance coverage that is currently in force, reversing the trend of the last three decades.

Term life insurance is also the only product that is readily affordable for the vast majority of people who would benefit from the protection of a loss of life policy. It is easily accessible through agents specializing in mortgage insurance and over the phone or the internet from a number of insurance vendors offering policies with simple features requiring only simple underwriting questions.

### **3.5.2. Flexibility in Coverage**

While providing a large amount of coverage for a relatively low premium, term life insurance is reminiscent of traditional group life insurance, devoid as they are of savings, investment, and similar features relating to salary and retirement plans. Moreover, like group life insurance, term policies can be initially purchased by employers at a group rate for multiple employees, and in doing so can provide a source of low-cost life insurance to employees. Term policies can later be converted over time into individual universal or whole life insurance contracts that build substantial cash value on a tax-

deferred basis while providing a death benefit. Like group insurance, the term product is one of the basic building blocks of life insurance, which provides an immediate liquidity of cash for dependents during a fixed period of time at a relatively low investment cost. A basic reason is that a temporary plan enables an insured individual, in particular a young family head, to invest the difference between the relatively low term cost and the higher premiums for whole or universal policies into higher yielding investments of his own choosing. As with group insurance, families of quite modest means can afford sizable policies, secured by calls to insurance companies. The firm can punctuate an important event in its life-cycle or that in the life-cycles of its employees. The term, which could be allocated to a category like "accidental death" could help in a publicity and promotion "safety" program.

### **3.6. Comparing Term Life Insurance to Whole Life Insurance**

The two general categories of life insurance are term life insurance and whole life insurance. If you only want death benefit protection, then term life is the best choice. It provides maximum death benefit coverage for every dollar spent. If you want a forced savings plan that combines life insurance and a cash accumulation account, then whole life insurance is the better product option. But a cash accumulation account within a policy is an expensive way to do something you can do better elsewhere.

Unlike term insurance, which provides coverage for a specific period of time and needs to be renewed if the insured desires additional coverage after that date, whole insurance remains in effect for the entire life of the insured so long as premiums are paid. Because of the ability of universal life insurance to maintain a life insurance death benefit for the insured's entire life, plus the cash accumulation feature, there is a large market for this type of insurance. Its main selling feature is the cash account, which is designed to grow like a savings account. Because the accumulation of cash is not the main purpose of life insurance, the insurance itself is very expensive. The net cash value and cash growth can be achieved for much less money than is spent on whole life insurance by investing the difference in a good growth-focused stock mutual fund.

The best time to buy whole life insurance is when the death benefit is most critical but the premiums are the lowest, for example, at the time children are born or adopted, or when a large long-term mortgage needs to be secured. The most expensive time to get it is when that insurance gap has narrowed or closed. So for a family with dependents, the life insurance gap is largest when children are young, and the income needs of the family may be higher, not lower.

### **3.6.1. Cost Comparison**

Not only is term life insurance much more affordable than whole life insurance, but its lower premiums also allow people to buy much larger death benefits than would be possible with a whole life policy. This disparity between term and whole coverage prices is most pronounced in the early years of a whole life policy. In most cases this is when the insured is in the best health and offers the insurance company the lowest risk profile. At this point in time it's also when the policyholder is paying mostly for the cost of the policy's cash value and agents' commissions, which can total up to 100% of a policy's first year premium.

In the example that follows, the monthly premiums of a whole life policy are approximately 6 times that of a low-cost term policy. At first glance, one might mistakenly think that the two products are comparable simply because the monthly premiums are of similar dollar levels. Furthermore, the absolute dollar contribution toward the whole life policy's cash value is \$345, and this is quite substantial. However, this is only the first year. The real story is in the example's fourth, tenth, and twentieth years. In the fourth year, the contribution toward cash value in the whole life policy has grown to \$388. But, the difference is that 4 years have gone by. What has the insured gone through in those 4 years? Certainly birthday celebrations and many of life's typical ups and downs, however, in addition to that, a risk of dying, which, in this case, would cause an accidental or unforeseen loss of income to a family of \$252,000. It seems unlikely that committing \$388 to the cash value of an insurance policy, especially when 97.7% of the premium is going for that purpose — and 0.3% is going for the risk of death — is prudent when faced by such enormous risk.

### **3.6.2. Coverage Duration**

Regardless of the cost of the type of insurance, the most important consideration is ensuring that coverage is maintained for the necessary period of time. The principal reason for having insurance is to protect the family financially. Your family will be able to maintain their lifestyle and meet their expenses with the proceeds of the insurance policy if you die shortly after the policy is issued. However, if no one dies and no benefit is paid, after a sufficient time has passed, the insurance becomes worthless.

With whole life insurance, as long as the premiums continue to be paid, coverage continues until the insured dies, regardless of how much time passes. Benefits may be paid for the death of the insured after 10 years, 20 years, 40 years, or more. With a term policy, it is usually not possible to have coverage above age 65 or 70, with few companies offering policies to age 75, and coverage beyond age 75 is extremely costly. The insurance company is adjusting for the fact that an increasing percentage of people

will be dying as the insured's age increases and also charging a greater premium for not having it probable that a benefit will not be paid for the first few years of the policy. The premium for the first annual renewable term policy is very low; the premium for a level term 20 policy is higher but level and much lower than the premium for renewing a term yearly thereafter until the insured is 65 or 70.

### **3.7. Conclusion**

The world around us is forever evolving, and, accordingly, the nature of temporal life insurance is evolving with it — keeping in mind the forever-fundamental life insurance premises: to provide financial relief to those left behind upon a person's untimely passing. Rather than being merely a rigid financial instrument with characterized lead properties, temporal life insurance is embedded deeply within the very fabric of society. As a result, temporal life insurance can be predicted to undergo substantial change along various dimensions in the coming years, such as fitting into life events as they naturally arise; behavioral finance considerations; the types of products available to the public; regulations; technology; coverage gaps; insurance as a service; evolving risk classes; alternative currencies, etc.

As temporal life insurance accompanies the entire lifecycle of a person, but also their loved ones, temporal life insurance must reflect our changing needs throughout our various life events. The same can be said for our attitudes towards temporal life insurance as we enter various stages in our ever-busier lives; we may move away from denial to a more reflective attitude that shapes preferences around temporal life insurance products, but also beyond into our wider portfolio of risk management instruments. In summary, temporal life insurance closes the risk management gap caused by uncertainty regarding the timing of individuals' deaths and the unexpected financial burden this leaves behind for their families.

#### **3.7.1. Future Trends**

Insurance is a dynamic milieu, so trends have a tendency to change yearly. Here are some of the trends that are anticipated to have a long-term influence on the insurance sector.

Policyholders are gradually preferring to buy life insurance online rather than over the phone or in person. More people are visiting insurance websites, more companies are investing in digital advertising, and more people are aware of their choices and are opting to buy term insurance without help from agents. The trend has been hastened by pandemic-related restrictions and social distancing recommendations.

Life insurers are investing in mobile and digital technologies to expedite application and underwriting processes and are creating new platforms to deliver policy reassurance and reminders on your phone. To offer insurance policies directly through websites or mobile applications, organizations are utilizing AI and chatbots to expedite the underwriting and application processes. They are connecting with insureds through mobile messaging and virtual agents.

Demand growth will be driven by innovative product development, distribution system expansion, improved customer experience, and deal-making. The inclusion of value-added services like e-healthcare, risk management, and online sales and claims services is expected to drive growth in the life and health insurance business. The outlook for credit life insurance is encouraging and the future for mortgage life insurance could also be brightening.

In 2023 and beyond, several key trends will continue to shape the life insurance industry. Technology-driven innovations will gain momentum and continue to provide insurance companies with new opportunities to bring products to market faster, gain deeper consumer insights, drive connecting emotion through branding and marketing, and improve the overall customer experience throughout the policy lifecycle. The accelerated adoption of technologies like cloud computing, artificial intelligence, data analytics, machine learning, and robotic processing automation will redefine how insurers operate.

## References

- Manral, J. (2015). IoT enabled Insurance Ecosystem - Possibilities, Challenges and Risks. arXiv. Retrieved from <https://arxiv.org/abs/1510.03146> arxiv.org
- Mobilunity. (2024). The Internet of Things in Insurance. Mobilunity. Retrieved from <https://mobilunity.com/blog/technology-trends-in-insurance-industry/> mobilunity.com
- Rey-Ares, L., Fernández-López, S., & Castro-González, S. (2024). Life insurance consumption across generations: The roles of financial knowledge, planning horizon, and self-control. *International Journal of Finance & Economics*, 29(4), 4742-4762.
- Smith, G. L., Banegas, M. P., Acquati, C., Chang, S., Chino, F., Conti, R. M., ... & Yabroff, K. R. (2022). Navigating financial toxicity in patients with cancer: a multidisciplinary management approach. *CA: a cancer journal for clinicians*, 72(5), 437-453.
- Nanda, A. P., & Banerjee, R. (2021). Consumer's subjective financial well-being: A systematic review and research agenda. *International Journal of Consumer Studies*, 45(4), 750-776.
- Dos Santos, L. M. (2021). The relationship between workforce sustainability, stress, and career decision: A study of kindergarten teachers during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Sustainability*, 13(20), 11521.