

CIVIL MARRIAGE CEREMONY # 5

Person 1: _____

Person 2: _____

This couple have come here today to be joined in marriage. The essence of this commitment is the taking of another person in his or her entirety as a lover, companion and friend. It is therefore a decision not to be entered into lightly but rather with great consideration and respect for both the other person and oneself.

_____ and _____ have invited us to share in this celebration as they affirm their love before us, pledge their faith to one another and enter into the joys and privilege of marriage. Love is one of the highest experiences we human beings can have and it can add depth of meaning to our lives. The day-to-day companionship, the pleasure in doing things together or in doing separate things but exchanging experiences, is a continuous and central part of what two people who love each other can share.

Marriage was established that two people might have life-long companionship, that natural instincts and affections might be fulfilled in mutual love, that children should enjoy the security of family life, love and home.

Marriage symbolizes the intimate sharing of two lives, yet this sharing must not diminish but enhance the individuality of each partner. A happy marriage is one which is continually developing while growing in understanding of the other person. By growing together in love, it is possible to share not only the joys of life but the burdens of sorrow as well.

_____ and _____, your marriage is intended to join you in a relationship so intimate and personal, it will change your whole being. It offers you the hope and indeed the promise of a love that is true and mature. To attain such love, you will have to commit yourselves to each other freely and gladly for the sake of a richer and deeper life together.

(To the Groom):

(Groom's Name), please repeat after me:

I, *(Groom's Name)* // do not know // of any lawful reason // why I may not be joined in marriage // with *(Bride's Name)*.

(To the Bride):

(Bride's Name), please repeat after me:

I, *(Bride's Name)* // do not know // of any lawful reason // why I may not be joined in marriage // with *(Groom's Name)*.

Municipal Clerk to the Male: Repeat after me, please:

"I call upon these persons here present to witness that I _____ do take you _____ to be my lawful wedded (wife or husband or spouse or partner)."

To laugh with you in joy

To grieve with you in sorrow

To grow with you in love

To be faithful to you alone

As long as we both shall live

Do you accept?"

Municipal Clerk the Female: Repeat after me, please:

"I call upon these persons here present to witness that I _____ do take you _____ to be my lawful wedded (wife or husband or spouse or partner)."

To laugh with you in joy

To grieve with you in sorrow

To grow with you in love

To be faithful to you alone

As long as we both shall live

Do you accept?"

Municipal Clerk to the Male: Repeat after me, please:

“This ring is my precious gift to you as a measure of my love and as a sign that from this day forward your every breath shall be surrounded by my love.”

Municipal Clerk to the Female: Repeat after me, please:

“This ring is my precious gift to you as a measure of my love and as a sign that from this day forward your every breath shall be surrounded by my love.”

I, (Clerk), by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act, do hereby pronounce you _____ and _____ to be husband and wife (or married).

You may kiss.

Municipal Clerk:

Let your home be as a haven of peace in the middle of a busy and businesslike world; let your relationship be one of complete truth and understanding between you both; respect the confidences of your partner in this marriage, and consider that as the work give nothing freely, neither will your marriage yield you more than you give into it.

May you enjoy length of days, fulfillment of hopes, and peace and contentment of mind, as you day by day live and fulfill the terms of this covenant you have made with one another.

After signing of the Register, Municipal Clerk announces:

May I introduce to you the married couple