

Marriage Ceremony Proposed in Jersey

TRENTON, Feb. 22 (AP)—A New Jersey Supreme Court committee on reconciliation today recommended the following uniform ceremony for civil authorities who may perform marriages in the state:

(John Jones) and (Mary Smith); you stand before me in happy anticipation of your marriage, which I am about to witness. But before doing so, it is my duty to remind you of the seriousness with which the laws of God and of this state have always regarded the step you are about to take.

None of us knows exactly what the future holds for him or her. Profound happiness and fulfillment are to be found in a real marriage. But I must remind you that mixed with the joy and successes and the hopes, disappointments and sorrows will mark the paths of all of us.

Not knowing what lies ahead, you take each other for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death. It is one of the richest sources of your

love and happiness that, knowing the profound seriousness of these vows, you are ready to pronounce them to each other. You will belong entirely to each other: one in mind, one in heart, and in all things. As much as each of you belongs to the other, so much is your marriage a success, for the life of love is sacrifice.

No greater blessing or happiness can come to you than to have this love, which you now publicly avow, grow ever deeper, truer and more generous, to the very end of your lives.

So this union is not to be entered into lightly, but soberly, advisedly and reverently. When this is done, the full blessings of the marital estate, which is about to receive the sanction of law, will be reaped in abundance.

(John Jones), will you have this woman as your wedded wife, to live together in the state of matrimony? Will you love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health, forsaking all others, so long as you both shall live?

(Mary Smith), will you take this man as your wedded husband, to live together in the

state of matrimony? Will you love, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health, forsaking all others, so long as you both shall live?

(Person officiating then asks each to repeat after him:)

I, (John), take thee, (Mary), to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death.

I, (Mary), take thee, (John), to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death.

(If ring(s) is (are) to be used, the man (or woman) is requested to place it on the third finger of the left hand of the other, and say:)

With this ring I thee wed, and I pledge to you my fidelity.

Now that you, (John) and (Mary), have exchanged marriage vows before me and those here present, and have given and pledged your fidelity to each other, under the authority vested in me I pronounce that you are man and wife.

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