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### CIVIL MARRIAGE SCRIPT THREE

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This couple has 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.

*Municipal Clerk to the 1<sup>st</sup> person:* Repeat after me, please.

“I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful impediment why I, \_\_\_\_\_, may not be joined in matrimony to \_\_\_\_\_.”

*Municipal Clerk to the 2<sup>nd</sup> person:* Repeat after me, please.

“I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful impediment why I, \_\_\_\_\_, may not be joined in matrimony to \_\_\_\_\_.”

*Please face each other as you repeat your vows.*

*Municipal Clerk to the 1<sup>st</sup> person:* Repeat after me, please.

“I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, \_\_\_\_\_ do take you, \_\_\_\_\_ to be my lawful wedded (husband, wife, spouse or partner).”

*Municipal Clerk to the 2<sup>nd</sup> person:* Repeat after me, please.

“I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, \_\_\_\_\_ do take you, \_\_\_\_\_ to be my lawful wedded (husband, wife, spouse or partner).”

*Municipal Clerk to the 1<sup>st</sup> Person:*

This ring is a symbol of your marriage and a symbol of your love and of your life together. Please place it on the third finger of \_\_\_\_\_'s left hand saying after me:

“With this ring, I thee wed. I shall love, honour and cherish thee and this ring shall be the symbol of my love.”

*If a double ring ceremony, the 2<sup>nd</sup> person repeats the above.*

I, Municipal Clerk/designates' name, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the *Marriage Act*, do hereby pronounce you, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to be married.

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.

You may celebrate your marriage with a kiss.