

Sample Marriage Script A¹

OFFICIANT: We are here to join _____ and _____ in marriage, which is an honorable estate sanctioned by law. “No union is more profound than marriage, for it embodies the highest ideals of love, fidelity, devotion, sacrifice, and family. In forming a marital union, two people become something greater than once they were.”²

TO SPOUSE: Do you, _____, take _____ to be your [husband/wife/spouse/partner]? Will you love [him/her/them], honor [him/her/them], support and keep [him/her/them], in sickness and in health, and cherish [him/her/them] and your friendship, today, tomorrow and forever.

SPOUSE: “I will.”

TO SPOUSE: Do you, _____, take _____ to be your [husband/wife/spouse/partner]? Will you love [him/her/them], honor [him/her/them], support and keep [him/her/them], in sickness and in health, and cherish [her/him/them] and your friendship today, tomorrow and forever.

SPOUSE: “I will.”

OFFICIANT: Then face each other, join hands, and make these vows by repeating after me.

TO SPOUSE: I, _____, take you, _____ to be my [husband/wife/spouse/partner] — to have and to hold — from this day forward— for better, for worse — for richer or poorer — in sickness and in health — until death do us part.

¹This script was provided by District Court Magistrate Michael Milroy, 63rd District Court, and recreated by MJI with permission.

²*Obergefell v Hodges*, 576 US 644 (2015).

TO SPOUSE: I, _____, take you, _____, to be my [husband/wife/spouse/partner] – to have and to hold – from this day forward – for better, for worse – for richer or poorer – in sickness and in health – until death do us part.

TO SPOUSE: _____, you have a ring, the symbol of your constant faithfulness and abiding love. Place the ring on the finger of your [husband/wife/spouse/partner] and say to [him/her/them], "Receive this ring as a token of my love and devotion."

TO SPOUSE: _____, you have a ring, the symbol of your constant faithfulness and abiding love. Place the ring on the finger of your [husband/wife/spouse/partner] and say to [him/her/them], "Receive this ring as a token of my love and devotion."

OFFICIANT: For inasmuch as _____ and _____ have consented together in wedlock/ and have declared the same before these witnesses and in my presence, therefore by virtue of the laws of the State of Michigan, I now pronounce you [couples choice: e.g., married; husband and wife; spouses for life; wives for life; husbands for life; wife and wife; husband and husband.]

Sample Marriage Script B³

We've gathered here today to celebrate the union of _____ and _____.

Marriage is an honorable estate and should not be entered into lightly. If anyone can show why _____ and _____ should not be lawfully joined together, let them speak now or forever hold their peace.

_____ and _____, I also charge both of you that if either of you know any reason why you may not be lawfully joined together in matrimony, you confess now, for be assured that if any persons are joined together otherwise than prescribed by law the union is not lawful.

The marriage ceremony is a celebration of love and friendship. Those who are assembled here today believe in the two of you and your commitment to each other. I congratulate you on your decision to bind your relationship in marriage and urge you to remember during difficult times the feelings that got you here today — love, respect, and friendship.

Face each other.

_____: Will you take _____ in marriage and do you promise to love, honor, and care for [her/him/them] in sickness and in health, forsaking all others, as long as you both shall live?

_____: Will you take _____ in marriage and do you promise to love, honor, and care for [her/him/them] in sickness and in health, forsaking all others, as long as you both shall live?

Repeat after me.

I _____ take you _____ in marriage — to have and to hold from this day forward; for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish as long as we both shall live.

I _____ take you _____ in marriage — to have and to hold from this day forward; for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish as long as we both shall live.

³This script was provided by District Court Magistrate Cora Gregory, 67th District Court, and recreated by MJJ with permission.

(Ring — _____) In token and in pledge of the vow made between us with this ring I thee wed.

(Ring — _____) In token and in pledge of the vow made between us with this ring I thee wed.

For as much as _____ and _____ have consented together in matrimony and have bore witness to this before this company and by the virtue of the authority vested in me by the state of Michigan I now pronounce you are legally and forever married.

May your love grow and your commitment to each other never waver.