
DIVORCE CEREMONY

Prayer

Scripture reading: Philippians 3:7-14 - A new beginning, a new life

Zukav, *The dancing Wu Li Masters* - Every beginning is a beginning as if it is for the first time.

Friends, we are together here in the presence of God and before these witnesses to recognise the annulment of this marriage between Kirsten and Corné. The marriage is given by God when he said in the beginning: "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him" (Genesis 2: 18). This marriage, which has been undertaken in the utmost seriousness, is now being annulated, not in a light hearted way or without consultation, but in devotion and humbleness, with pain and tears, in the deepest dependence on and in the love of God.

Kirsten and Corné, who has been married in the church and who has been granted a divorce by the State, come and ask of God and those present to recognise the annulation of this marriage and ask God for forgiveness so that they can live under the grace of God, and also in honour in the eyes of people. We, their friends, come in love together to support them.

Kirsten and Corné have, in respect and dependence, come to the realisation that it is in the best interest of them both that this marriage must be annulated. They have acted in love and understanding and to the best of their abilities. Aware of the seriousness of such a decision, it is their wish to ask God to recognise the annulation of this marriage between them and to ask God and each other for forgiveness and to pray the best wishes for each other for the future.

It is expected from us, their friends and fellow Christians, to do everything in our power to support them and to carry them in this new life that lies ahead for them.

Will you, Kirsten and Corné, do everything in your power to live in love for God and all people so that you can be free to make a new beginning in your life with hope and trust?

Giving back of the rings

Prayer: Our Father (Matthew 6:9-13)

Blessing

QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire
is anonymous

1. Do you agree with the following statements:

A. One must cohabite with someone before getting married:

1. Agree strongly 2. Agree 3. Don't know 4. Disagree
5. Disagree strongly

For what reason:

1. Trial marriage 2. Commodity 3. "Things just happen like that"
4. We consciously didn't think about it 5. Other _____

B. It is too easy to divorce today.

1. Agree strongly 2. Agree 3. Don't know 4. Disagree
5. Disagree strongly

C. It is normal for couples getting married to think that if their marriage doesn't work out, they could always get divorced.

1. Agree strongly 2. Agree 3. Don't know 4. Disagree
5. Disagree strongly

D. The happiness of the individual is more important than an unhappy marriage.

1. Agree strongly 2. Agree 3. Don't know 4. Disagree
5. Disagree strongly

E. Marriage is for life, even if the couple is unhappy.

1. Agree strongly 2. Agree 3. Don't know 4. Disagree
5. Disagree strongly

F. Marriage is for life and should never be terminated except in extreme circumstances.

1. Agree strongly 2. Agree 3. Don't know 4. Disagree
5. Disagree strongly

2. A. Have you been thinking during the past year that your relationship had some problems?

1. Yes 2. No

B. Have you already talked to your partner about a possible separation?

1. Yes 2. No

C. Do you think that the chances for you getting a divorce are:

1. Zero 2. Very feeble 3. Feeble 4. Possible 5. Quite possible

-
3. **A. Are you -**
1. Very satisfied 2. Satisfied 3. Not very satisfied 4. Unsatisfied
concerning the amount of understanding that you receive from your partner?
- B. Are you -**
1. Very satisfied 2. Satisfied 3. Not very satisfied 4. Unsatisfied
about the amount of love and affection received?
- C. Are you -**
1. Very satisfied 2. Satisfied 3. Not very satisfied 4. Unsatisfied
with your life together?
- D. Are you -**
1. Very satisfied 2. Satisfied 3. Not very satisfied 4. Unsatisfied
with your sexual relationship?
- E. Are you -**
1. Very satisfied 2. Satisfied 3. Not very satisfied 4. Unsatisfied
with the way that your partner behave towards the child(ren)?
- F. Are you -**
1. Very satisfied 2. Satisfied 3. Not very satisfied 4. Unsatisfied
with the help of your partner in household tasks?
- G. Are you -**
1. Very satisfied 2. Satisfied 3. Not very satisfied 4. Unsatisfied
with the fidelity of your partner?
- H. Are you -**
1. Very satisfied 2. Satisfied 3. Not very satisfied 4. Unsatisfied
with your relationship?
4. How does your relationship compare with others?
1. Much better 2. Better 3. The same 4. Worst 5. Much worst
5. One year ago, your relationship was:
1. Much better 2. Better 3. The same 4. Worst 5. Much worst
6. The feelings of love for your partner are -
1. Very strong 2. Strong 3. Average 4. Feeble 5. Very feeble
7. Do you disagree from time to time about household tasks, money, sexual life, child(ren), leisure activities, parents-in-law:
1. Never 2. Seldom 3. Sometimes 4. Often 5. Very often
8. Many households have from time to time disagreements. There are some cases where people in their anger slap, hit, or kick the other. Did it already happen to you?
1. Never 2. Seldom 3. Sometimes 4. Often 5. Very often

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9. **When you started cohabiting, did you -**
1. already decided to get married
 2. The idea of marriage wasn't evoked
 3. Were still very undecided, but the possibility of marriage was evoked
 4. Prefer not to answer
 5. Other
10. **Which of the following reasons made you decide to get married?**
1. We had no preconceived ideas against the marriage. Life together affirmed that we can get married.
 2. We are expecting a child
 3. We would prefer not to get married, but cohabitating presents too many problems from the side of the community.
 4. Our parents really would like it if we get married. So, we decided to get married.
 5. Prefer not to answer
 6. Other
11. **Could an important change in your actual situation change your projects and make you decide to have more children than you actually want to have?**
1. Yes
 2. No

If yes. **Which of the following changes could make you decide to have another child?**

1. A bigger home
 2. A larger income
 3. An easier way to look after the children
 4. The possibility for the wife to interrupt her professional career for a couple of years
 5. If other, which?
-

12. **For a married couple, the ideal situation ought to be -**
1. To share all activities and leisure
 2. To sustain a certain amount of activities and leisure apart
 3. Prefer not answer
13. **If for some insurmountable medical reason(s), you as a couple could not have children, will you say that this would be for you -**
1. A terrible thing to bear
 2. A difficult thing to bear
 3. An inconvenient minor
 4. In the end, a could thing
 5. Anyway, we didn't want children
 6. Prefer not to answer
14. **Which of the following reasons are for you personally the most important to have children -**
1. When you love somebody, it is natural to have children
 2. A couple is considered only as normal by the rest of the family and the society if it has children.
 3. It is an obligation in face of the society
 4. A child bring irreplaceable joy to the parents
 5. It is especially my partner who wants children
 6. Prefer not to answer

15. While wishing to get married, couples often think of some inconveniences of marriage. For you, when you thought of the possibility to get married, were there any inconveniences of marriage which you thought of?

A. To live always with the same person and making a very long term commitment -

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Bothered me a lot | 2. Bothered me a little | 3. Didn't bother me |
| 4. Pleased me | 5. Prefer not to answer | |

B. The fact to get settled, become middle-classed, to fall into a routine -

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Bothered me a lot | 2. Bothered me a little | 3. Didn't bother me |
| 4. Pleased me | 5. Prefer not to answer | |

C. To accept the fact that somebody has control over my life -

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Bothered me a lot | 2. Bothered me a little | 3. Didn't bother me |
| 4. Pleased me | 5. Prefer not to answer | |

D. Committing my future to someone who could develop differently than I -

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Bothered me a lot | 2. Bothered me a little | 3. Didn't bother me |
| 4. Pleased me | 5. Prefer not to answer | |

E. The obligation of fidelity -

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Bothered me a lot | 2. Bothered me a little | 3. Didn't bother me |
| 4. Pleased me | 5. Prefer not to answer | |

16. If the possibility to get divorced didn't legally exist, would you anyway gotten married?

1. No, maybe I would not have got married
2. I would have hesitated before taking the decision
3. Nothing would have changed for me
4. Prefer not to answer

17. Do you think that a woman can decide alone, even against the opinion of her husband -

A. To take the pill

- | | |
|--------|-------|
| 1. Yes | 2. No |
|--------|-------|

B. To have an abortion

- | | |
|--------|-------|
| 1. Yes | 2. No |
|--------|-------|

18. Do you think that in the marriage that -

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Fidelity is absolutely necessary | 2. One can tolerated some space |
| 3. It is better if each one leave each other big enough freedom concerning this point | |
| 4. Prefer not to answer | |

19. Do you think, concerning fidelity, that for the wife, it is -

-
1. 1-6 2. 7-12 3. 13-18 4. 19-24 5. 25 +
29. 1. cohabited before 2. never cohabited
3. cohabited only with future spouse 4. am divorced
30. **Age when married:**
1. 18-19 2. 20-22 3. 23-25 4. 26-28 5. 29-31 6. 32-35
31. **A. Number of children under charge:** 1. None 2. 1 3. 2
4. 3 5. 4 or more
- B.** 1. Conception before marriage 2. Birth before marriage
3. Marital birth
30. **A. Were you looking for work when you started cohabitating:** 1. Yes 2. No
- B. Are you actually looking for work:** 1. Yes 2. No
- C. Were you looking for work when you got married:** 1. Yes 2. No
31. **Religious affiliation:**
1. None 2. Non Christian
3. Practising catholic 4. Non practising catholic
5. Practising protestant 6. Non practising protestant
34. **What is the most important reason for you that made you decide to have a religious ceremony?**
1. Tradition 2. My personal religious convictions
3. Our personal religious convictions
4. The personal religious convictions of my partner
5. One of the two families (or both) would have found it difficult if we acted differently
6. Prefer not to answer

Comment(s): _____

GUIDELINES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NARRATIVE BASED RESEARCH PROPOSAL

1. Positioning

- a. Within which scientific paradigm and research process do you place yourself?
- b. Why do you choose for this one? How did you come to this specific paradigm?
- c. Explain how you understand this scientific paradigm and research procedure.
- d. Explain your own role as researcher within this paradigm and procedure.
- e. How does this positioning of yourself as researcher distinguishes you from other approaches?
- f. How are you going to conduct your research in order to maintain subjective integrity?

2. Action

- a. Which action or field of action (*habitus*) did you choose to research?
- b. How did it come that your curiosity was awoken by this action?
- c. How did your own personal story influenced your choice of this action for research?
- d. How are you going to use and report your own story in your research?
- e. What was your initial response to this field of action?
- f. How do you think could it become possible for you to be drawn into the action, in stead of remaining an outside observer?

-
- g. Describe the possible *modi* of interaction that you are considering in order to do research on this action. For instance:
1. Observation? What kind?
 2. conversations?
 3. questionnaires?
- h. In whose language are you going to describe the action (yours, the participants, which participants, theological language, the language of the sub-culture, etc.)?
- i. Are you going to have feedback from the participants on your discription of the action, or not? Why?
- j. Where would you like to create your borders in terms of actions/action fields, and in terms of theological and/or other subjects?

3. Background

- a. Identify the persons and/or the discourses, which have played a role in the development of this particular action or action field.
- b. Thinking about these persons and/or discourses, what would you like to research in depth in order to understand the action better?
- c. Try to order these persons and/or discourses in priority.
- d. How do you think at this stage, did it happen that these particular persons are involved in this particular action?
- e. How are you going to gather, compile, and report the stories, which form the background of this action?
- f. Give a preliminary overview of the the literature that is available and which you plan to use.

4. Development

- a. How are you going to bring the different stories (action stories, background stories, your own story, literature, art, etc.) in conversation with each other?
- b. What measures are you going to take in order to maintain an alertness for unexpected developments in the understanding of the action? For instance: Are you going to create a reflecting team? Are you going to involve the larger scientific community in your interpretation, and how?
- c. How are you going to involve the participants in the action, as your co-researchers? At what stage and how are you going to give them the opportunity to reflect on your preliminary interpretations?
- d. How are you going to facilitate a *critical* reflection on your preliminary findings?
- e. Who are the marginalized in this field of action and in your research programme? How are you going to ensure that the normally unheard voices would be heard?

5. Climax

- a. Have you any expectations of what the climax would be like for you in this research process?
- b. How do you think are you influenced by this expectation in planning your research?
- c. What actions are you going to take in order to ensure that you wait for the climax to happen, in stead of manipulating it?
- d. How would you know that you have reached a climax in your research?

6. Ending

- a. How would you describe the imagined ending of your research? What would you like to accomplish, and why?
- b. Why would the ending be worth the while for you, even if you might not reach any new discovery?
- c. How are you going to report your research and findings? (dissertation, thesis, article, etc.)
- d. Write a broad outline of how you anticipate your research document (dissertation, thesis, article, etc) could look like.
- e. Describe the importance of selfreflection as part of the ending of your research.
- f. What makes it difficult for your to write a selfreflection with integrity?
- g. How are you going to overcome these difficulties?
- h. Who do you think would benefit from your research? How are you going to communicate your research findings to them?