

Metropolitan Tribunal

CASE:

NUMBER:

Dear Witness:

One of the parties in the above mentioned case has indicated that you can give the Tribunal some helpful information in this case.

The reason for the annulment procedure in the Catholic Church is an entirely spiritual one which looks toward the good of the parties concerned. We are not interested in pointing a finger of blame at either party to this marriage.

In filling out the attached questionnaire, please follow these directions:

1. Before answering any questions, please read through the entire questionnaire once.
2. We would be most grateful if you would download the form and **type** your answers. If you are not completing your answers on the computer, please write in **ink**.
3. Please answer the questions in detail.
4. If you need more space for answers please feel free to add additional pages.
5. After you have completed the questionnaire, please take it to a parish priest or notary, sign it in his/her presence and have him/her witness your signature. It is **necessary** that the questionnaire be signed and witnessed.
6. **Please return this questionnaire directly to the Tribunal, along with the cover letter and oath in the self-addressed envelope provided to you by the party to this case. Do not share your testimony with either party in this case.**

Please return the completed questionnaire to the Tribunal within **three weeks** after you have been asked by the party to provide testimony.

These questions are geared toward giving the Tribunal an in depth picture as to why this marriage was not successful. Thank you very much for your assistance in this matter.

All incidents of child abuse, as required by law and Archdiocesan policy, are reported to the appropriate authority.

What is your name? _____

What is your address? _____

Your daytime telephone number: _____

N.B. It is most important that you share with us all that you know concerning this marriage.

1. If you are a relative to either party to this marriage, to whom are you related and how?

2. If you are not a relative, how long and in what capacity (e.g., friend, neighbor, co-worker) have you known each of them?

3. Were there any problems or difficulties which either party had:
 - a. in their family backgrounds (e.g., in either family of origin was there drug or alcohol abuse, physical abuse, divorce, mental illness, etc.)? Did these problems affect their decision to marry?

 - b. in relating to family members, e.g., father, mother, siblings, etc.?

 - c. in their relationship to school and friends, employers and co-workers? (Please explain your answer.)

4. Describe the personality of the man (strengths, weaknesses, etc.).

5. Describe the personality of the woman (strengths, weaknesses, etc.).

6. Did these parties appear to get along well prior to the wedding? If no, please explain.

7. Was the courtship or engagement ever broken? If yes, why?

8. Did either party have any doubts or hesitations about getting married to each other? If yes, please explain.

9. Was there opposition from family or close friends to this marriage? Please explain.

10. Were you yourself in favor of them marrying when they did? Please explain.

11. Was there pressure on the couple to marry when they did?

12. Was there a premarital pregnancy?

13. Do you believe that both parties had realistic expectations of what marriage or married life is all about? Please explain.

14. At the time of the wedding, what signs of immaturity, if any, did you see in either party?

15. Prior to the marriage did either party ever express a set of circumstances wherein the marriage would be considered ended? (e.g., if my spouse were ever unfaithful or became abusive, I would get a divorce.)

a. Did both parties believe in the permanency of marriage? If yes, why did they divorce?

16. Did either or both parties plan to postpone having children in the marriage? If yes, for how long and why? When did you hear this?

17. Did either or both parties ever express an intention to have no children at all in the marriage? If yes, please explain. When did you hear this?

a. Did either/both intend to limit the number of children in the marriage?

18. Did both parties believe that fidelity in marriage was important? If no, please explain.

19. Was either party unfaithful during the engagement? If yes, which party and how long before the wedding? How do you know this?

20. Was either party unfaithful during the marriage? If yes, which party and how soon after the wedding? How do you know this?

21. Did the parties have a pre-nuptial agreement?

22. Were there any differences or difficulties between the parties:
- a. during the engagement period? Please explain.

 - b. on the wedding day? Please explain.

 - c. during the honeymoon? Please explain.
23. How soon after the wedding did you become aware that there were problems or difficulties in this marriage?
24. What were these problems or difficulties?
25. How did you learn of this?
26. Were both parties happy over any children that were born to this marriage? If no, please explain

27. Were there any separations prior to the final one? If yes, how many, how long after the wedding did they occur and how were they reconciled?

28. When and why did the final separation occur?

29. Did either/both have difficulty getting or holding a job?

30. Were finances a problem? Please explain.

31. Was either/both irresponsible with money/finances? If yes, please explain.

32. Did they have different views about finances? If yes, please explain.

33. Were there any problems involving abuse of any type? If yes, please explain precisely.

34. If there was abuse of any type, did it exist before the wedding? If yes, please explain precisely. How do you know this?

35. Did either/both have a problem with gambling? If yes, did it begin before the wedding? Please explain.

36. Did either/both have a drinking problem? If yes, did it begin before the wedding? Please explain.

37. Did either/both use drugs? If yes, did it start before the wedding? Please explain.

38. Were there any problems involving in-laws? If yes, please explain.

39. Were there any problems regarding Church or religious beliefs? If yes, please explain.

40. Did either/both experience difficulty in dealing with ordinary, everyday problems? Please explain.

41. Was the marriage a partnership? Please explain.

42. Were you surprised when the marriage broke up? Please explain.

43. In your opinion, did either party suffer from emotional problems?

44. Was either party ever treated by a psychologist, social worker, counselor, therapist, or medical doctor? If yes, please explain what you know of this.

45. Did this couple ever consult a marriage counselor? If yes, please explain.

46. Did either/both display any strange, unusual, or eccentric behavior? If yes, please explain.

47. After the wedding, did either party show any change in personality, life-style, or behavior pattern? If yes, please explain.

48. If either/both parties has remarried, how many times and how long have these marriages lasted?

49. If either party is remarried, how does the present marriage of either compare/contrast with the marriage in question?

50. Is there anything of significance about the marriage that has not been covered by this questionnaire and about which you wish to comment?

51. The possibility of publication of the Acts exists in every case. This means the parties may review the testimony. If this becomes a possibility do you have any objection to your testimony being reviewed by the parties?

I solemnly swear, so help me God, that the information which I have given in the above answers is true to the best of my knowledge.

Witness' Signature

Signature of Priest

Date:

Place: