
Marriage-Sanctity is the Love between 2 persons

Marriage is an exclusive choice of commitment (on an emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual level) between two individuals that can be recognized by the government and/or religious institutions. Marriage historically has been the social contract by which a man owns a woman as property. The Biblical view of marriage is ownership and not Love. The Old Testament (of the Hebrew Bible which largely governs common day thought) does not articulate a “one man and one woman” ethic because many of the Biblical Patriarchs possessed wives, concubines, and slaves with which they had sexual relations/relationship with. Marriage is often called the “bonds” of matrimony, meaning a “binding agreement,” as bond is half of the word “bondage”-hence the ball and chain references to marriage.

Marriage today is characterized by the following:

- 1) Right of choice- typically afforded for opposite gender individuals to “accommodate their relationships.” Co-habitational (common law) are given the same rights and legal recognition and protections. These choices of partners do not always involve religious ceremonies or faith-based organizations.
- 2) Not based on procreation-barren women, infertile men, those persons who have submitted to vasectomies, hysterectomies, and those individuals who have terminated pregnancies are all allowed the “institution” of marriage. Neither Post-menopausal women nor infertile males’ marriage certificates are invalidated or revoked due to non-procreative potential or promise.
- 3) Not based on religious or “faith based” institutions-afforded to individuals regardless of the existence or non-existence of their theological, religious, spiritual beliefs. Afforded to opposite gender persons regardless of the number of failed marriages they have had-divorce (current divorce rate over 50%). Extended to individuals regardless of illegal criminal and/or civil violations and records. Also afforded to non-US citizens (illegal immigrants and aliens).
- 4) Improves the health/wellness capital of individuals-gives and empowers individuals to make healthier choices by increasing the number of individuals who have access to a plethora of affordable PREVENTATIVE health services by increasing the holistic health and the social capital of individuals.
- 5) Afforded to individuals who are deceased-a French Lady was afforded the opportunity to marry her deceased fiancé (of 17months). Please see:
<http://www.azcentral.com/offbeat/articles/0210macabre-marriage10-ON.html>
Woman afforded Marriage opportunity with dead fiancé

I submit that currently there is a sanctity of marriage, but not the traditional (old), conventional, accepted view. Marriage’s sanctity is the privacy of two individuals to enter into the most intimate and not terminal relationship ever. I contend that same-sex marriage would then reintroduce Marriage’s “sanctity”-agape-unconditional love and commitment-of this particular contract between 2 people regardless of gender (sex). If two persons of the same gender’s relationship could survive in such virulent, anti-same gender culture communities then their relationship must be based a superlative love. Therefore one can only conclude that marriage rights for same gender people would then save the institution of marriage by illustrating in concrete examples that two people CAN experience an unconditional, exclusive, commitment.